

Papandreou plans early elections

ATHENS (AP) — Premier Andreas Papandreou has decided to call an early national elections several months before his Socialist government's four-year term runs out, a government spokesman said Wednesday. The spokesman, Dimitry Maroudas, said Mr. Papandreou would visit newly elected President Christos Sartzetakis on Thursday and ask him to dissolve parliament "soon after it has approved the planned constitutional amendments." The spokesman gave no date for the elections, but government officials said the polls would be held in June or July. The constitutional revisions, already submitted to parliament and due to be voted on next week, must be approved by the 300-member house in two separate votes held one month apart. Elections can be held one month after parliament is dissolved.

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جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Gromyko says summit good idea

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko indicated Wednesday Washington and Moscow were still far from agreeing a date or place for a summit meeting, a spokesman for visiting Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark reported. Mr. Gromyko's comments, the first word from the Kremlin on prospects for a meeting between President Reagan and new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, came during talks with Mr. Clark Wednesday, press spokesman Sean Brady told reporters. Brady said Mr. Gromyko had made clear that Moscow favoured a summit but not a meeting for its own sake. "In principle yes, the idea of a meeting was probably a good idea at some point, but they certainly were nowhere near choosing a date or a venue," Mr. Brady said in a summary of Mr. Gromyko's remarks. (See earlier story on page 8)

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King congratulates Senegal, Hungary

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday cabled congratulations president of Senegal Abdo Diouf and President of Hungary Janos Kadar on the occasion of the two countries' independence days. The King wished the peoples of Senegal and Hungary continued progress and prosperity.

Roadside bomb injures Israeli troops

SIDON (R) — A roadside bomb wounded several Israeli soldiers in occupied South Lebanon Wednesday, Lebanese security sources said. An Israeli truck was hit and its occupants wounded when a bomb exploded near the village of Jouair, west of Nabatieh, the sources said. A Reuters correspondent a few kilometres to the north saw a black column of smoke from the blast as bursts of shooting echoed through the hills. There was no immediate confirmation of the casualties from Israel.

Aziz arrives in Peking

PEKING (AP) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz arrived Wednesday in Peking, where earlier in the day a government spokesman repeated China's denial that it has concluded a major arms deal with Iran. The Iraqi embassy said Mr. Aziz, arriving from Tokyo, was here as a member of an Arab League delegation and not in his official capacity as Iraq's foreign minister. Embassy officials declined to say how long he would stay or which Chinese leaders he would meet.

Syria wants to send troops to Sidon

CUWAIT (R) — Syria has told Saudi Arabia and Kuwait it wants to send troops to Sidon in South Lebanon to block efforts to partition the country, a Kuwaiti newspaper said Wednesday. The Arabic daily Al Qabas, quoting Arab diplomatic sources, said Syria had already taken a political decision to send forces to Sidon and its Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara'a, who flew to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait Tuesday to deliver messages to their leaders, consulted them on the move.

Qaboos rejects joint Gulf military pact

AIRO (R) — Sultan Qaboos of Oman has rejected the idea of forming a military pact of Gulf Arab countries similar to NATO or the Warsaw Pact. "Some Gulf nations are promoting the idea of building a joint military force to be under a single command and ready to deploy in any Gulf state at any time," Sultan Qaboos said in an interview with the Cairo weekly Al Mussawir.

Luce holds talks in Doha

DOHA (AP) — British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Richard Luce held talks Wednesday with the Qatari leadership on the final leg of an Arab Gulf tour focusing on a discussion of ways to settle the Iran-Iraq war.

Jordan condemns attack on Rome embassy as cowardly terrorist act

Lebanese passport holder arrested after rocket assault

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Foreign Ministry Wednesday strongly condemned a terrorist attack on Jordan's embassy in Rome as a "cowardly terrorist act" and called on Italy to "identify the real planners" of the attack.

In a statement issued here after the attack, which damaged the fourth floor of the building where Jordan's embassy is located on the fifth floor, the Foreign Ministry said Rome police have arrested a 20-year-old man carrying a Lebanese passport and a nine-millimetre pistol.

The ministry said the attack "was carried out against the Jordanian embassy in Rome by some terrorist elements" and that the government "condemns these cowardly, terrorist acts which expose the lives of civilians and innocent people to danger."

The Jordanian government is in continuous contact with the Italian government to urge Italy to "use all possible efforts to identify the real planners of the incident," the Foreign Ministry's statement said.

It was the second attack on Jordanian property in Rome in two weeks. Police, who arrested the man, said the bomb was fired from

shoulder was injured by recoil.

A family in the fourth floor apartment which was struck by the shell escaped injury because they were sitting on the far side of the building, police said.

The weapon, an M-72 anti-tank rocket launcher, was found underneath a car across from the building, police said, adding that the suspect also carried a Swiss-made pistol. Police earlier identified the weapon as a U.S.-made bazooka.

Police said the man identified himself as Ahmad Mimour, 20, and that he told them he had arrived in Italy on March 27.

A woman had given him the launcher and a pistol Wednesday morning and they were to meet at Rome's main railway station after the attack.

The man told police the woman kept his passport and was to have returned it to him afterwards.

Fuad Bitar, representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Italy, was quoted by the Italian news agency ANSA as saying the attack was an attempt to sabotage the recent accord between Jordan and the PLO on a formula for joint action towards Middle East peace.

Mr. Bitar said terrorists carrying out attacks such as Wednesday's were serving the interests of Israel and the United States. On March 20 a group was for-

med in Damascus called the "national front for Palestine salvation," and Mr. Bitar said Wednesday it was the Syrian and Libyan-backed alternative to the PLO.

In Paris, an anonymous caller, in a telephone call to the French news agency Agence France Presse, claimed responsibility for Wednesday's attack.

Some PLO officials have said that "black September" is a name used as a cover by Syrian and Libyan intelligence agents working against the Jordan-PLO agreement.

Wednesday's attack was one of a series against Jordanian targets in Europe in recent years.

On Oct. 26, 1983, the Jordanian ambassador to Italy, Tayseer Allaadin Touqan, was wounded by an unidentified gunman in Rome.

On Nov. 7, 1983, gunmen killed a non-diplomatic employee of the Jordanian embassy in Athens and injured another in the city's market.

On Nov. 29, 1984, a man tried to shoot a senior diplomat at the Jordanian embassy in Athens as the envoy was driving home, but fled after his gun jammed.

On Dec. 4, 1984, a gunman shot dead Jordanian diplomat Azmi Al Mufri in Bucharest.

Israel violated Geneva Convention, ICRC says

GENEVA (Agencies) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Wednesday that Israel violated a Geneva convention protecting civilians in war-time by transferring some 1,000 prisoners held in Lebanon to Israel.

A statement said Israel violated the Fourth Geneva Convention which prohibits deportations of prisoners from an occupied territory to the territory of the occupying power.

It said Israeli authorities Wednesday handed over to the Red Cross more than 700 prisoners from the Ansar camp in southern Lebanon. About 1,000 prisoners were transferred to Israel.

The Israeli authorities told the ICRC that the prisoners would be taken back eventually to a new prison camp now being built in southern Lebanon, the ICRC statement said.

The Geneva-based ICRC, in an unusual public accusation, said Wednesday the transfer of prisoners from Ansar to Israel violates the Geneva Conventions. But it said 1,000 "detainees have been transferred to Israel, violating Articles 49 and 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention."

The 1949 convention deals with treatment of civilians in time of war. Article 49 prohibits "forcible transfers... from occupied territory to the territory of the occupying power or that of any other country."

Article 76 stipulates that civilians "accused of offences shall be detained in the occupied country and if convicted they shall serve their sentences therein."

A senior Israeli government official told reporters, the prisoners taken to Israel were being held under administrative detention orders which must be renewed every three months.

The administrative orders, used widely by Israel to detain Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, were adopted from British law used in Palestine during the British mandate period.

In London, the human rights group Amnesty International said the statement that Israel had begun freeing hundreds of Lebanese prisoners did not reduce its concern about the hundreds more who were being transferred to Israel.

Arab League to hold urgent talks in Amman on S. Lebanon situation

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — The Arab League Council will hold an emergency session in Amman on Friday upon the request of Jordan to discuss the situation in South Lebanon where Palestinian refugee camps have been the target of fierce attacks by Lebanese Falangists and Israeli-backed gunmen, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said Wednesday.

Petra said all permanent representatives of member states of the Arab League have agreed to attend the meeting. It quoted sources close to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat as saying that the PLO leader will attend the meeting.

His Majesty King Hussein, in a telephone call to Mr. Arafat on Tuesday, voiced concern over the situation in South Lebanon in the wake of the militia assaults on Palestinian refugee camps there and offered to do whatever Jordan could to alleviate the suffering of the besieged refugees.

Jordan's request for the emergency meeting of the Arab League Council was made on Tuesday

through the Kingdom's permanent delegate to the Arab League headquarters in Tunis.

Meanwhile, leaders of Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan Wednesday appealed to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi, United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the president of the U.N. Security Council to intervene and take effective measures to protect the Palestinian refugees living in camps in South Lebanon.

The refugee leaders, in cables to Mr. Gemayel, Mr. Klibi, Mr. Perez de Cuellar and the Security Council, urged immediate international action to "stop the massacres being perpetrated against refugee camps and the Lebanese people in South Lebanon under Israeli occupation within sight and hearing of the international community."

The camp leaders also sent a cable to Mr. Arafat affirming their support for and solidarity with the residents of refugee camps and the Lebanese in South Lebanon in "their struggle for the liberation of the usurped Palestinian land under the leadership of the PLO."

Ex-Ansar detainees vow to continue fight

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli occupation troops in South Lebanon Tuesday freed about 750 detainees, mostly Lebanese nationals, from Israel's notorious Ansar camp after transferring over 1,000 others to Israeli jails.

Chanting anti-Israeli slogans, jubilant prisoners were loaded aboard open-sided Safari trucks in an operation supervised by the Red Cross and driven to towns around south and central Lebanon.

The detainees taunted guards with "V" signs and shouts of "Death for Israel" and "Victory for Khomeini," the Shi'ite leader of Iran.

One group of prisoners, their wrists bound by white plastic handcuffs, left the camp singing in shrill Arabic: "We have the bombs and the RPGs (rocket-propelled grenades). We are with Khomeini."

As the detainees left, demolition teams began rolling up miles of barbed wire, bulldozers flattened the red earth ramparts, and a crane uprooted metal watchtowers.

The convoys of trucks relayed the freed prisoners from the camp

People in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon took cover in basements and stairwells Tuesday as shells crashed into residential areas, security sources told Reuters.

Six people were wounded as heavy fighting erupted between the mostly Christian fighters of the Falangist "Lebanese Forces" and the pro-Israeli "South Lebanon Army" militiamen confronting Palestinian and their supporters in Sidon's eastern outskirts, they said.

The clashes followed sporadic exchanges earlier in the day. City officials said 34 people had been killed, 170 wounded and some 60,000 driven from their homes since the militiamen began their assaults on Palestinian refugee camps east of Sidon on March 18.

Sidon's Palestinian refugee camp of Mieh Mieh and 'Ain Al Hilweh were shelled overnight as the assaults continued.

Some 20,000 Palestinians who were made homeless in the shelling were living in temporary accommodation in Sidon while 326 Palestinian families had gone to camps elsewhere in Lebanon, the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinians said.

Israelis storm another Lebanese village

BEIRUT (Agencies) — An Israeli armed convoy entered a South Lebanese village and rounded up about 300 men for questioning Wednesday, a U.S. spokesman said.

U.N. spokesman Timur Goksel said the Israelis entered the village of Teir Zebna, 16 kilometres east of Tyre, early Wednesday and had rounded up 300 men in the village school for questioning.

Goksel said the Israelis were searching houses and shops. He said Ghanaian U.N. soldiers from the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) were in the village, along with observers from UNIFIL headquarters.

Security sources, who asked not to be named, said more than 200 Israeli troops were involved.

The sources said the Israelis also brought a bulldozer, which they have used in the past to demolish houses where they claim weapons are found.



A 20-year-old Lebanese passport holder, identified as Ahmad Mimour, who launched a rocket at the Jordanian embassy in Rome, is taken away in handcuffs by Italian police shortly after the attack on Wednesday (AP wirephoto)

Masri briefs Ceausescu on efforts for peace

VIENNA (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, who often plays a mediating role in Middle East affairs, Wednesday received Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, the Agencepres news agency reported. Agencepres said Mr. Masri briefed Mr. Ceausescu on Jordan's efforts for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict.

In his reply Mr. Ceausescu renewed a call for an international conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices and including both superpowers, Agencepres said.

Meanwhile in Amsterdam, a Senior Dutch government official Wednesday praised the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and said that the Netherlands considers the agreement a positive step towards solving the Middle East problem.

Arnold Hatzing, director of the Middle East department at the Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs told Petra that Holland will support and encourage the accord through meetings of the European Community (EC) of which the Netherlands is a member.

He also said that United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 should be the basic element in any form of future negotiations that will deal with the Palestinian problem.

Mr. Hatzing said Holland welcomes the idea of an international peace conference but he stressed that preparations for such a peace conference should be adequate in order to ensure the success of such a peace conference.

U.N. chief says Iran rejected proposals

MUSCAT (Agencies) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar saw the Iranian and Iraqi chiefs of mission in Muscat Wednesday and said later Iran did not accept his ideas for solving the Gulf conflict.

He told a news conference: "The parties maintain their position... the Iranians are not, at least for the time being, prepared to accept my approach of addressing the whole problem."

Iraq has said it would welcome Mr. Perez de Cuellar in Baghdad to discuss a comprehensive ceasefire as a prelude to a negotiated settlement. Iran, however, says it will only discuss attacks on civilians and shipping as well as chemical weapons which it alleges Iraq has used.

King receives Armitage

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defence for International Security Affairs Richard Armitage and a military delegation accompanying him. Attending the meeting at the Royal Court were Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, and U.S. Ambassador to Amman Paul Boeker.

On Tuesday, Sharif Zaid discussed Jordan's arms needs with Mr. Armitage, who arrived on Monday.

That was the first announced contact between the two countries on arms questions since President Reagan a year ago cancelled the sale of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan.

Mr. Armitage's current visit to Jordan is part of regular U.S.-Jordanian talks on the Kingdom's military needs, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said Tuesday.

Following his talks on Tuesday, Mr. Armitage told the Associated Press that he believes King Hussein's peace effort could improve the chance for U.S. arms sales to Jordan. As a result he said, U.S. congressmen who opposed the sales previously were now "ready to watch and listen for what he has to say."

No Israeli troops were in evidence during the funeral procession from Mr. Khalaf's home to Ramallah's Greek Orthodox Church.

Israel occupation authorities

Palestinians defy curfew to attend Khalaf's funeral

RAMALLAH, the occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Hundreds of Palestinians defied an Israeli curfew Wednesday to attend the funeral of Karim Khalaf, a former West Bank mayor.

Mr. Khalaf, 48, who died on Saturday of a heart attack, was buried in the West Bank town of Ramallah, where he was mayor for 10 years starting in 1972 until being deposed for refusing to work with the Israeli occupation authorities' "civil administration" for the region.

The town has been under curfew since an Israeli settler was killed in nearby Al Bireh on Sunday.

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Iraq reportedly negotiating to buy Mirage 2000 planes

PARIS (R) — Iraq is negotiating to buy between 40 and 48 Mirage 2000 fighter-bombers from the privately-owned French firm Dassault-Breguet, industry sources said Wednesday.

But the sources said they did not believe a deal was about to be signed, as reported by the British magazine Jane's Defence Weekly, which said France would supply 60 of the advanced aircraft.

"I have not heard that the talks have reached as advanced a stage as that," one source said.

Dassault refused to comment on the Jane's report.

The magazine said Iraq would also replenish its stocks of Exocet missiles, which it has used to attack shipping in the Gulf during its 4½ year war with Iran, and of air-to-air missiles. France would also supply additional Mirage F-1 planes and helicopters, it added.

Spokesmen for state-owned Aerospatiale, which makes the missiles, were unavailable for comment.

Commenting on the Mirage report, the industry sources cautioned that the Baghdad government had not signed a letter of intent and might have difficulties paying for such a large contract.

But France has shown its willingness to help Baghdad with its financial difficulties by rescheduling its 1985 debt repayments to Paris two weeks ago.

This was part of a deal reached last year under which France will give Iraq more time to pay debts believed to total more than \$5 billion.

An order from Iraq for Mirage 2000s would mark a further success by Dassault following Egypt's order of 20 of the same planes in 1983, a letter of intent for 40 of them from Greece last November and advanced discussions with Abu Dhabi for a further 18. Saudi Arabia is also negotiating a purchase.

Iraq is currently taking deliveries of 29 of Dassault's Mirage F-1C planes, ordered in February 1982. It earlier bought about 40 F-1s and some of Dassault's Super-Étendard jets.

The negotiations with Iraq come at a time when Paris is trying to improve relations with Iran, previously hurt by arms supplies to Baghdad.

Iranian Parliament speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said last week Tehran was willing to improve ties with Paris if the French government would alter its policies.



Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities and Acting Minister of Information Taher Hikmat (left) Wednesday receives Jordanian Journalists Association President Mahmoud Al Kayed (centre left) and members of the association at the Ministry of Information (Petra photo)

Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities and Acting Minister of Information Taher Hikmat (left) Wednesday receives Jordanian Journalists Association President Mahmoud Al Kayed (centre left) and members of the association at the Ministry of Information (Petra photo)

Hikmat pledges support for journalists

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture, Tourism and Acting Minister of Information Taher Hikmat received at the Ministry of Information Wednesday Jordanian Journalists Association (JJA) President Mahmoud Al Kayed and members of the association.

A comprehensive review of matters and subjects pertaining to the JJA was carried out during the meeting. Mr. Hikmat also wished the president and

members all success.

The minister promised to meet all demands which would help to raise the standard of journalism in the country and which would enable journalists to fulfil their mission.

The meeting was attended by the acting director general of the department of press and publications, Mr. Issa Jahmani.

Murphy: Qadhafi adopting causes with no connection with Libya, Islam

WASHINGTON (USA) — Libyan Col. Muammar Qadhafi has adopted causes "which have no remote connection to Libya, with Islam or with decent international standards of conduct," according to Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

Mr. Murphy, speaking on April 1 before the National Foreign Policy Conference for leaders in higher and international education at the U.S. Department of State, cited the funding Col. Qadhafi is supplying to insurgents in the Philippines and to a variety of other forces including those in Northern Ireland.

The basic American policy regarding Col. Qadhafi is "to freeze him out, however we can," Mr. Murphy said. The assistant secretary said Col. Qadhafi "has distinguished himself in the annals of evil" and that he has not been able to find "any redeeming social value in the man yet," adding that the colonel has "a vicious streak."

Mr. Murphy said Col. Qadhafi's vicious streak has been directed principally at his own people and exiles who face the threat of Libyan hit squads.

The conference at which Mr. Murphy spoke was cosponsored by the Department of State and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities with the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the International Council on Education for Teaching.

The assistant secretary also responded to questions on the Middle East, Iran and India. Carlton W. Knight II of the American University of Beirut told Mr. Murphy, in the preface to a question, that U.S. policy in the Middle East was losing credibility because it was neither realistic or balanced. Mr. Murphy responded by saying, "Realism tends to be in the eye of the beholder," and asked Mr. Knight to be more specific.

Mr. Knight asked why the U.S. does not want to talk to various agencies, governments or parties in the Middle East. Mr. Murphy said, "We're not talking to the Iranians because they have nothing to say to us — they've made that plain."

Regarding the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Mr. Murphy said, "We adopted a pol-

icy back in '75 that we wouldn't recognise or negotiate with the PLO until it accepted those two U.N. resolutions — U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 and 338 — and stated or pronounced on Israel's right to exist."

Mr. Murphy pointed out that the United States cannot guarantee the PLO a seat at any future negotiating table because "we're not going to be able to issue a guest list." He stressed that the guest list would have to be acceptable to all the parties. Despite Israel's unwillingness to sit down with the PLO, Mr. Murphy stressed U.S. readiness to enter into a substantive dialogue with the PLO. He said, "We have sent that message very clearly over the past few years." First however, he said, the PLO must communicate its willingness to accept the standard formula of peace regarding the U.N. resolutions and Israel's right to exist.

In response to Mr. Knight's remarks that the U.S. pursues an unbalanced policy in the Middle East, Mr. Murphy said, "We are not selecting Israel here as our only friend because it is not a tenable policy. We need many friends

in the area. And we are trying every way we can to keep the channels of communications open."

Speaking about the rise of the Ayatollah Khomeini and Islamic fundamentalism, Mr. Murphy observed that Shia Islam has gone through waves of fundamentalism in the past and that it is not something new in the Mideast. He said the current popular phase can be attributed to the frustrations of people in the region. People are frustrated, he said, when their leaders do not give them the answers they want on various subjects including the Arab-Israeli conflict and unemployment. Then, when they fail to receive their answers they "go back to the faith," he said.

"Lebanon is the killing ground, Lebanon is the proving ground for Khomeini," Mr. Murphy said. Khomeini wants to show that his Islamic revolution is valid and applicable throughout the Islamic World, he explained. The United States is doing what it can, Mr. Murphy said, to get the message across that it supports Lebanese sovereignty.

Most of Mr. Murphy's prepared statement dealt with the Arab-

Israeli peace process. He said the term "peace process" is overused and that it "implies an objective, as yet unfilled; worthy, yet still elusive." There have been a lot of mixed signals in the aftermath of the Hussein-Arafat agreement.

Mr. Murphy also commented on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's recent efforts to nudge the peace process along by suggesting that the U.S. agree to a preliminary meeting with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. "We are not entirely clear, on our part, as to how this would advance our goal of direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan. Nor can we be certain what the Arab side may have in mind about the make up of a joint delegation," Murphy said. He added, "and it's for this reason that I am being sent back to the region this month to explore with the parties what we can do to be helpful."

During and after Mr. Mubarak's U.S. visit, Mr. Murphy said, there were various press reports suggesting that the U.S. had rejected Mr. Mubarak's ideas or that he or King Hussein or a combination of both had been re-

jected. "This is not the case," Mr. Murphy said. "Nothing has been rejected."

"We share with the players in the region a desire to move forward and are seeking a way of doing so," he stated. "The strength of our policy is in its consistency."

"We have to guard against the type of premature activity which would stir up unrealistic expectations and divert the parties in the region from the tough choices that only they can make," Mr. Murphy said.

He told the audience of educators that the U.S. remains ready to do what it can "to end the cycle of violence that plagues the area and we are actively involved in trying to move the parties in this direction." He said, "we look forward to determining when the current momentum will bear fruit. We are keenly aware of what remains to be done."

Mr. Murphy also touched briefly on the Iran-Iraq war, pointing out that U.S. policy remains "one of neutrality." He said the recent attacks on capital cities indicates the futility of a military solution to the conflict.

Cyprus frees hijacker

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus has freed one of two jailed hijackers whose release armed gunmen demanded when they seized a Cyprus Airways airliner in Beirut last February.

Officials said Mehdi Saadoun Hajj Hassan, 21, jailed for seven years in 1983 for hijacking a Romanian airliner to Cyprus, was released Tuesday under normal review procedures for foreign prisoners, and not in response to demands made by the Beirut

gunmen. "The review of the hijackers' case had begun before our plane was seized in Beirut," a government spokesman said.

Over 15 gunmen held the crew of a Cyprus Airways Boeing 707 hostage for six hours in Beirut to demand the release of Hassan and Aref Ahmad Raja, 24, Lebanese who hijacked an airliner in June 1983. Official sources said Raja's release was imminent.

Libya offered \$5b for unity pact, Sudan says

WASHINGTON (R) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri was quoted Wednesday as saying Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi had offered \$5 billion if he would sign a unity pact similar to the one Libya worked out with Morocco last year.

Mr. Numeiri, in an interview published in Wednesday's Washington Post, said the offer was made to Sudan's ambassador in Paris several months ago by an envoy of Col. Qadhafi.

"We refused, and we stopped talking with him," Mr. Numeiri said.

Mr. Numeiri said he believed the Qadhafi offer was an attempt to drive a wedge between Sudan and Egypt. They are linked by an economic integration accord.

Mr. Numeiri, who arrived last week, held talks with President Reagan on Monday. Washington later released \$67 million in economic aid that had been withheld until the Sudanese government took steps on economic reform.

Washington also agreed to provide an additional 225,000 tons of food aid to Sudan where some six million people are affected by a prolonged drought.

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11:30 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
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13:30 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
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18:30 Special Feature
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20:30 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:30 Evening Show Contd.
22:00 News Summary
22:30 Evening Show Contd.
23:00 News Summary
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Week's road accidents claim 7 lives

AMMAN (Petra) — Seven people were killed and 104 other persons were injured as a result of 157 road accidents in the country during the past week, according to the Public Security Department's weekly report. The report said that 111 of these accidents took place in Amman.

Obeidat issues 'switch-off heat' circular

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat has issued an official circular to all ministries and government institutions instructing them to switch off heating as of April 1.

Bahraini health minister due Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Bahraini health minister is due here Saturday on a week-long visit to Jordan. During the visit the minister will hold talks with his Jordanian counterpart Dr. Kamel Al Ajlouni with the aim of developing bilateral health relations and cooperation.

Aviation students to graduate soon

AMMAN (Petra) — Under Royal patronage, students of five courses will graduate from the Queen Noor Civil Aviation Technical Training Institute (QNCATTI), according to Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Director General Khaled Mohammad Ali. Mr. Ali, who is also president of QNCATTI's board of directors, said that three of the courses are on civil and military air traffic control and two are on aviation engineering. He said that the institute's graduates form 80 per cent of the technical staff of the CAA. He added that the institute also trains Arab civil aviation technicians and controllers.

Omani minister to open cultural week

AMMAN (Petra) — Omani Minister of National Heritage and Culture Faisal bin Ali bin Faisal will arrive in Amman Friday on a several-day official visit during which he will open the Omani cultural week on Saturday. The week will include cultural and folklore activities and exhibitions aimed at introducing Omani cultural achievements to the Jordanian public. A book exhibition and a display of Omani traditional handicrafts are also among the activities. An Omani evening will be organised for Sunday evening to include musical and folklore presentations by visiting artists.

JDA to attend dentists' union meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) is to take part in a meeting of the Arab Dentists' Union, scheduled to be held in the Syrian capital of Damascus on April 11. The Jordanian working papers to be submitted to the meeting were discussed Wednesday during a meeting of the JDA board.

Society for the blind to meet April 15

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first meeting of the honorary presidents and active members of the International Blind Union will be held in Amman from April 15 to 18. The meeting will discuss the work plan for the International Blind Union and strategies for the next few years. They will also discuss issues related to future projects that deal with the blind.

Christians mark Easter week

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Christian community in the East Bank of Jordan will next week observe a holy week which precedes Easter Sunday on April 14.

The week commences with religious celebrations in churches this coming Sunday, April 7, Palm Sunday, in accordance with the eastern calendar. All Christian denominations following eastern or western calendars decided some years ago to observe religious feasts together. They celebrate Christmas each year on Dec. 25, according to the western calendar and Easter, in accordance with the eastern calendar, as a first practical step leading eventually towards the unifications of the Christian churches.

At both Christmas and Easter, churches hold religious ceremonies and one of these churches, the Roman Catholic Church, holds services in English for the foreign community in Jordan. Father Mousa Adeli who officiates at these services has provided the following timetable for holy services in English and French in the coming week:

Palm Sunday, Jebel Hussein at 5 a.m. in English;
Easter Sunday, Jebel Lweibdeh at 12 noon in English;
Jebel Amman Saint Joseph at 5 p.m. in English;
Jebel Hussein at 5 p.m. in English;
Swefieh at 6:30 p.m. in French.
For mass in Arabic call father Adeli or 661757.

Tourist organisation aims to promote Arab states

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The economical and social importance of tourism and its contribution to development is a known and highly priced reality which the Arab Tourist Organisation believes to be instrumental in the formation of Arab economic unity.

Established less than a year ago, in May 1984, the Arab Tourist Organisation works within the framework of the Arab League. It is presently based in Jordan, though the permanent headquarters are to be sited in the city of Jerusalem.

The Arab Tourist Organisation counts presently 15 members: Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, North and South Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Sudan. It is still seeking the membership of other Arab and North Africa states such as Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Bahrain, Djibouti and Mauritania.

The organisation's aims are directed mostly towards developing, promoting and strengthening tourist cooperation between the Arab countries, utilising the huge tourist potential of the Arab area for the realisation of its economic, cultural and social objectives.

Dr. Abdullah Abu Rabah, secretary general of the Organisation, told the Jordan Times that a convention was recently drafted asking Arab states to direct all efforts to promoting tourism within the Arab World.

This aim can be reached by directing more attention to tourism, extending technical aid and advice relevant to tourist plans and development programmes, upgrading the competence of the staff working in tourist and hotel establishments, conducting research and studies related to Arab tourism strategy, providing up-to-date information and data which will eventually be collected into a guidebook for the whole Arab area, eliminating formalities and easing measures which hinder movement between the Arab countries, he said.

The Arab Tourist Organisation is dealing with both private and public sectors of tourism, cooperating also with foreign and international tourist organisations. Local, regional and international seminars and conferences are also scheduled which aim at developing Arab tourism.

Dr. Abu Rabah said that, at the present, the organisation is working on the incrementation of the first Arab tourist company, with a capital of 100 million Kuwaiti dinars, in cooperation with the Council for Arab Economic Unity.

The financial resources of the organisation usually consist of contributions of the members according to the scale of assessment applied by the organisations of the Arab League, and aids, gifts and donations which are approved by the assembly.

Dr. Abu Rabah said that, after the creation of the Arab Tourist Organisation, the priorities are now the creation of an Arab tourist market and the strengthening of a cooperation between Arab states.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday patronises the graduation ceremony for police cadets at the Police Training School in Zarqa (Petra photo)

Obeidat meets bar association council

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Wednesday congratulated Jordanian Bar Association President Hussein Mujally and members of the bar association council on the results of their recent elections and formation of a new council.

Receiving the council at the Prime Ministry, Mr. Obeidat voiced appreciation for Jordan's members of the bar association as he said they bear the burden of their task with responsibility and commitment.

He pointed out that the judicial institute which the government is planning to establish is expected to comprise sections for judges and other legal specialisations and

that the institute will be the corner stone of knowledge for those working in the legal profession.

The prime minister emphasised that lawyers should cooperate with the Ministry of Justice and follow the constitution. The government intends to modernise, update and strengthen the abilities of the judicial system in order that it can cope with schemes in all fields of development.

Mr. Obeidat promised the members of the association that the Prime Ministry will consider several points raised by the council. One of the associations requests is for supporting Jordan's legislation encyclopedia which could be used by all those connected with the law and official departments.

New monthly review projects Jerusalem's Islamic identity

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — One of the most recent and comprehensive reviews of the situation regarding Islamic and Christian holy sites and up to date developments in occupied Jerusalem was launched in Amman this month, Jerusalem Mayor Rawhi Al Khatib announced Wednesday.

Speaking at a press conference held to introduce the first issue of the monthly review, Mr. Al Khatib, the responsible editor, appealed to Palestinians to unify their ranks under the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in order to face the challenges of Zionism in the Arab World.

Discussing the review, Mr. Al Khatib said that "Al Quds Al Sharif" aims to emphasise Jerusalem's Arab, Islamic and cultural identity. The review also intends to focus on the steadfastness of the Arab population in the occupied West Bank as well as the present activities in Jerusalem in all fields. It will also report on the latest Israeli aggressions against the holy city, the mayor added.

The first issue includes features on the Higher Islamic Commission which was established in Jerusalem in the aftermath of 1967 war, Jerusalem on the international level and Jerusalem under Israeli military occupation.

It also contains news items on Israeli attacks and aggressive acts including Israel's attempts to change the 14th Century Islamic court into new courts, Israeli procedures to cancel the franchise of the Arabic electricity company for Jerusalem governorate and their attempts to close down the only Arab hospital inside the city walls.

Mr. Khatib went on to say that the issue includes a column on local events and the first episode of series of articles about heritage in the holy city in addition to an article about an Israeli project to establish 'Greater Jerusalem'. The article, which is accompanied by maps and documents, throws light on the Israeli intention to annex most of the towns and villages surrounding the city, Mr. Al Khatib said.

The magazine's editorial board comprises Mr. Al Khatib as editor, Speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC) Abdul Hamid Al Sa'eb, member of the Upper House of Parliament Hazem Nusseibeh, president of the executive council of the General Islamic Congress for Beit Al Maqdes Kamel Sharif, Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijem, member of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Bishop Elias Khoury, dean of scientific research at the University of Jordan Dr. Adnan Bakht and Emil Kurdi, Jamil Barakat, and Zaki Al Goul who are members of Jerusalem Municipality.

French-speaking nations join forces to present varied festival of films

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Eight international films, illustrating the works of five prominent international directors, are currently on show at the Philadelphia Cinema in a film festival of French speaking countries, the first of its kind in Jordan.

The international film festival, organised by the embassies of Belgium, Canada, France, Switzerland and Tunisia in cooperation with the Jordanian Cine Club, aims to demonstrate various dimensions of cinema production in these countries as well as reflecting the diversity of their cultural backgrounds.

"This film festival of the French speaking countries also aims to highlight the importance of the French language, spoken by 180 million inhabitants of five continents," Mr. Lebreton, cultural attaché at the French embassy explained to the Jordan Times.

By definition, language is the system of vocal and written symbols used by human beings to communicate their thoughts and feelings. Language is the only means of cultural inter-relation between nations as it plays a major role in the rapprochement between groups, nations and civilizations. "The primary social function of language is to facilitate communication and it would be impossible to perpetuate across generations, anything like a human culture without a vehicle of communication as flexible as language," Mr. Lebreton asserted.

"The main objective behind organising this festival is to demonstrate the fact that language is not the only common element inter-relating French speaking communities," he said. Moreover, he added, these countries have, to a certain extent, similar cultural and traditional backgrounds.

Beside being the official language of France, the French language is also one of the official languages used in Europe, America, Maghreb countries, and Africa.

The French language is also utilised by many large communities in the world such as Lebanon, Syria and other countries. "The French language is an international one. It is used in the United Nations and the European Community (EC)," Mr. Lebreton said. "It is the language of the law as well as science, especially in mathematics," he added.

The film festival, started last Monday and will continue until Sunday. It was organised by the five embassies in order to enforce the cultural relations between the French speaking communities.

Each embassy, Mr. Lebreton explained, is participating with one of its well-known productions. All films are the product of notable and prominent directors who are known worldwide for their strong, intellectual style and who have been credited several times for their productions.

Tunisia, the only Arab country taking part in this festival, is participating with the film "Les Ambassadeurs" by Tunisian director Nassr Katterly. "Les Ambassadeurs" represents the social, political and economic conditions of Arab immigrants in France and tells the story of Tunisian, Moroccan and Algerian immigrants living in France who find it difficult to communicate with the French people.

The Tunisian director tries, through his work produced in 1977, to draw attention to the sufferings of these immigrants inflicted upon them by the French people who humiliate them for being Arabs. The Arab-African immigrants

often are and were poor people who left their countries looking for better living conditions in France. These immigrants worked in France as labourers and as a result they clash with the labour force in France and with French society. Mr. Katterly tries, through his production, to view the conditions of the immigrants in France and to verify the fact that these immigrants have no choice but to accept any work offered to them, as a result, they have to confront certain classes of French society which are narrow-minded and unaware of other people's cultures and traditions.

The French embassy in Amman is participating with two films by two prominent French directors. "Vivement Dimanche" by Francois Truffaut and "Le Beau Mariage" by the famous French director Eric Rohmer.

Francois Truffaut started his career as a cinema critic. In 1953 he started his cinema career and was given an award for best director at the 1959 Cannes festival. In his film "Vivement Dimanche", Truffaut tells the story of Julien Vercel, the manager of a real estate agency who is suspected of murdering his wife and her lover. With all the evidence against him, Julien goes into hiding from the police and his secretary, Barbara, decides to conduct her own inquiry to establish the truth. Throughout her investigations, Barbara meets many funny and eccentric personalities; a jealous lawyer, an over-curious photographer, an office assistant, a blond typist and an aggressive police inspector.

300 trainees complete public security course

Prince Hassan patronises police cadets' graduation

ZARQA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday called on police departments in the country to continue the development of the police force through training.

Prince Hassan was speaking after patronising the graduation ceremony of two platoons at the Police Training School in Zarqa.

The Crown Prince said that he believes the quality and level of police training to be comparable with society's future security needs.

Prince Hassan started the graduation ceremony by inspecting the line of graduates who performed a number of military parades and arms presentations.

The 300 graduates had completed 20 weeks of extensive training on police duties, public relations, and criminal investigation. The course included theoretical sessions on the penal code, court

procedures, special laws in addition to religions and general knowledge subjects. They also had practical training on first aid and police skills.

The school's director, Lieutenant Colonel Nimmer Hmoud said that the school's motto follows the words of His Majesty King Hussein that "public security should be the eye that does not sleep in order that mothers and children sleep in peace and security."

Lt.-Col. Hmoud delivered a speech in which he thanked Prince Hassan for patronising the celebration. He said that this new batch of graduates, who have chosen the honour of service based on

good merit and noble values which have been initiated by His Majesty King Hussein, is a new back-up for the public security body.

The Crown Prince then presented prizes to the winners from the two groups and the graduates took the oath while the public security band presented musical performances.

The ceremony was attended by Public Security Director General Diab Yousef and his assistants, Zarqa District governor Mohammad Dibeil, Zarqa Development Corporation President (ZDC) Tayseer Ammari and the ZDC board of directors, the Zarqa police director, the Zarqa chamber of commerce president, a number of senior police officers, deans and students of Zarqa community colleges, members of the Friends of the Police Society and the graduates' families.

EEC supports Yarmouk with science grant

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Economic Community (EEC) has granted the science faculty at Yarmouk University 2,500,000 ECU's as part of the frame work of the EEC-Jordan agreement, personal assistant to the EEC representative in Amman, George Karabashy said Wednesday.

Mr. Karabashy told the Jordan Times that the three-year grant will be used for training, assistance and the supply of specialised equipment for the departments of biology, chemistry and physics.

Tenders for specialised equipment are expected to be published in due course and bids will be open to international companies, including those belonging to the EEC, Mr. Karabashy pointed out.



SARVATH OPENS PAKISTANI EVENING: Her Highness Princess Sarvath Wednesday opens a Pakistani evening at the Jerusalem Melia Hotel, organised by the Arab Women Graduates Club in cooperation with Pakistani women's committee. The evening included art and musical performances in addition to an exhibition of Pakistani handicrafts.

Artistic links via electronic dialogue

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian artists do not have to forsake their traditions in the process of developing their art, a prominent American artist told an audience of artists and journalists at the Jordan National Gallery Wednesday.

Answering a panel of four Jordanian artists by "electronic dialogue" from his house in New York, Romare Bearden said: "You can develop something from your roots and that should be an interesting challenge for you."

He told the audience in the dialogue organised in cooperation with the American Centre that "I cannot give you advice on how to develop your own art... every artist should find his own way by himself."

Mr. Bearden, 71, speaking of his experience as an artist, said: "We are all prisoners of our times." He explained that he was always influenced by developments around him, mainly creeping modernisation and computerisation which made artists "so impatient."

He argued that classic artists used to paint more carefully and take more time on their works because of the then prevailing life patterns. He said today, artists do not have the patience to do classic works and that most of the works described as super realism or photo realism are simple copies from photographs projected by certain technical means.

Mr. Bearden who graduated from New York University in 1935 with a degree in mathematics had his only formal training in art by studying under artist George Grosz at the Art Students League for one and a half years.

"I have always been interested in art but it was only after graduating with a degree in mathematics that I decided to become an artist," Mr. Bearden said in response to a question.

On display at the Jordan National Gallery were reproductions of Bearden's works which clearly manifested the absence of the 'third dimension in the perspective. "You have to get away from fooling the eye with the third dimension," he explained.

Mr. Bearden, a black American who at a certain period in his life worked with European artists, such as Brancusi, Helion, Braque and Reichel, also formed associations with American artists and writers among them poet Samuel Allen and novelist James Baldwin.

His art was described as "not only an evaluation of his own freedom and responsibility as an individual and artist, but an affirmation of the irrelevance of the notion of race as a limiting force in the arts. These are works of a man possessing a rare lucidity of vision," novelist-critic Ralph Ellison said of the artist.

The panelists participating in the dialogue were artists Mahmoud Sadeq, Ammar Khamash, Laila Haddad and Nabil Shehadeh. President of the Royal Society for Fine Arts Princess Wijdan Ali, Jordanian artists, journalists and officials from the American Centre attended the dialogue.

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Reflection on a challenge

WHILE we prepare to enter a decisive new era in which much of the Middle East future will be determined, we look upon these weeks as a time of reflection and contemplation. The moment of truth for the Arabs and Israel has not arrived yet, but it looks as if it is fast approaching.

The peace process that is in the works nowadays, or should be, different from earlier attempts at reaching a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The differences are indeed great: Major players have changed, consequently outlooks; the reality on the ground has become uncertain, almost unfamiliar; the rush for higher stakes in the race for time and history is fast reaching a new pitch; and the times are different and the going is tough.

Things are also different in that we now have a sort of deadline to meet: If nothing positive happens in the first few months of the second Reagan administration, nothing positive will ever happen to the Middle East. This is in fact a turning point. Either we take strides to achieve peace in the Middle East, or we start getting ready for great political upheavals and perpetual strife. In those few weeks left, there is a lot to think about and ponder — no less than the future of our next generations is at stake.

Jordan and the Jordanians are for peace. So are the PLO and the Palestinians. The PLO, being the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative, is faced with the dilemma of having to play its role from behind the scenes. The rest of the Arab World, save the extremists, is watching, hardly caring to be objective about and involved in the difficult choice Jordan and the Palestinians have to make.

Peace is never a difficult choice. The question is the price you have to pay for it. Where we, Jordanians and Palestinians, stand today, there seems to be no sure answer; hence the need for political courage and sense of history to make the right decision.

As we await the outcome of the flurry of diplomatic activity that the Jordan-PLO accord of Feb. 11 has generated, we call on every party concerned to spare no effort in rising to the historic challenge and adopt clear-cut, practical resolutions that will put an end to Israel's occupation of Arab land and to the Palestinian problem.

This is the last opportunity for peace. It should also be the most real.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordan most worried

AS THE shelling of Palestinian refugee camps continues in southern Lebanon, and as the fighting is being escalated between the dissident Falangist forces and the army in Sidon the Arab countries remain impassive. No one has yet raised a voice in defence of the refugees who reside in the camps and are helpless in the face of the shelling, and who are facing agents of the Israeli forces in South Lebanon.

Among the Arab countries, only Jordan has called for an urgent session of the Arab League to discuss the situation. King Hussein telephoned PLO chairman Yasser Arafat to offer whatever help Jordan can make to assist the refugees and end their sufferings and their ordeal. We are surprised not to hear any other voice raised on this matter, not even the Lebanese resistance forces whose actions against the Israeli invaders aroused pride and admiration in the hearts of the Arab masses.

All other countries are looking on and doing nothing to help the helpless refugees, and also the Lebanese civilians who were displaced and continually face danger. What is happening in Lebanon now is only part of a plan aimed at liquidating the Palestinian political and military presence in Lebanon. This is Israel's long sought objective, and the Lebanese agents are now helping their ally to carry it out.

Al Dustour: Strengthening ties with USSR

THE SOVIET Union and the United States are reported to have come to an agreement on holding a summit meeting between the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Needless to say that both leaders will, when they meet, discuss major world issues with the purpose of arriving at the closest possible agreement on at least some of them, and will try to save the world from the danger of wars.

The Middle East problem will no doubt be present on their agenda because it is one of the most chronic issues that have plagued the world for a very long time. Until the projected meeting takes place, the Arab countries ought to take steps to make their voice heard and to ensure that the Palestine problem will acquire proper attention by the two superpowers. These countries should first reach consensus among themselves on their demands, and should reach a joint strategy, and work out a common plan to be presented to the two leaders. They also must intensify their contacts with Moscow and bolster their ties with it with the purpose of achieving a balance with the U.S.-Israeli alliance.

The Soviet Union stands out among world powers as the staunchest supporter of Arab causes and the United States, on the other hand, is well known for its support for Israel.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan greatly concerned

ISRAEL'S ESCALATION of its attacks on Palestinian and Lebanese people in South Lebanon and its stepped up arbitrary measures against the inhabitants of the occupied West Bank expose its real intentions in the region and underline its disregard to all efforts aimed at achieving a genuine peace.

Israel's current escalation of attacks on the Palestinians in particular came as a reply to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement to reactivate efforts for reaching a peaceful solution to the Middle East question. This is Israel's response to the peace bid because it really rejects all calls for peace and pursues its plans for liquidating the Palestinian problem through terrorist actions, intimidation campaigns and eviction of Arabs from their land.

It was in view of this serious situation, and as a result of continuous shelling and displacement of refugees in Lebanon, that King Hussein called PLO chairman Yasser Arafat to work together and save the Palestinians from their near ordeal. The driving force behind King Hussein's call and the reason for Jordan's call for an urgent meeting, of the Arab League to study the situation, reflect the true cohesion between the Jordanians and Palestinians, and also manifests Jordan's national stands.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Watch U.S. trends rather than words

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — In trying to understand U.S. policy, it is important to look at the trends and not just the words of the decision-makers. This is particularly true of Washington's Middle Eastern policies.

Do the trends show anything different from the past? Yes, they can be sensed in the media, and the moods in public opinion which they reflect (or try to shape).

Until recently, a powerful triangle of political forces kept the U.S. on an unchangeable pro-Israel track. Liberals with strong ties to the labour unions were the most powerful backers of Israel in the U.S. Conservatives, many with links to fundamentalist Christianity, saw in the Israeli state the fulfillment of divine prophecy. And the media with strong liberal tendencies saw Israel as

the Middle East's only democracy.

On the pro-Arab side, there were mainly the great oil companies who had a lot of money, much behind-the-scenes influence, but little support in public opinion. The triangle prevailed. And every time an issue arose that seemed to favour the Arabs, the triangle managed to rouse a storm of opposition in Congress.

The significant trend affecting U.S. Middle Eastern policy is that the triangle has weakened. It is not yet weak to the point of breaking up, but the three sides are slowly becoming less and less firmly attached.

One can see the weakening both among liberals and conservatives, but the most visible is in the media. And the way the New York Times has been

reporting on Lebanon and Israel illustrates the new trend.

The New York Times is America's leading newspaper, and is Jewish-owned. Yet it has always avoided any impression that it might be seen as a Jewish newspaper. It is scholarly, objective, and painstakingly factual in its coverage. Until the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, its coverage on Israel was in general line with the sympathetic approach characteristic of just about the entire U.S. press. But after June 1982, critical reporting on Israel began to appear, especially by David S. Reardon, who had earlier reported from the Soviet Union. That reporting reflected the deepening split on foreign policy that exists in Israel. Recently, the Times featured excellent pieces detailing the Israeli policy of "the iron fist" in southern Lebanon. An exp-

erience American reader quickly sensed that the image of the once "heroic and humanitarian Israeli defence forces" had radically changed.

The New York Times is a newspaper of elites. It is close to the educated, tolerant corporate world. It believes devoutly in the world economy. It wants arms accord with the Soviets. It argues against Mr. Reagan's policies in Central America. And over the last few years it has come to agree with those growing forces in Israel that want direct negotiations with the Palestinians, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

These trends in the New York Times reflect several new moods. More people in the business world want peace in the Middle East and want an end to Arab-Israeli hostility. Many

American Jews now believe the Zionist state itself is a key source of trouble in the Middle East. Doubts about Israel are beginning to surface in the labour unions. Less and less does one hear about Israel as "the shining light of democracy in the Middle East."

On the pro-Arab side, a few trends have appeared. One is the presence of small but mildly influential Arab-American lobbying groups. Another is the rise of Arab communities in many American cities. Islam is being gradually accepted as a major religion.

But the major force leading to a rethinking of the U.S. commitment to Israel is a new image of Israel and Lebanon. Israel is now being increasingly shown as a state governing an economy in shambles, like

some of the debt-ridden countries of Latin America. And while Lebanon is shown as a land of terrible violence, there is sharp memory of U.S. Marines having been in Beirut, a situation that could have led to war with Syria and possibly even to clashes with Soviet advisers.

The trends may be taking place much more slowly than the Arab world would wish, but they do exist. What they add up to is that American public opinion wants to see a resolution of the Arab-Israeli issue at a time when newer dangers are beginning to rise in the Middle East. And even though it now seems unlikely, Americans are afraid of another oil crisis that could spell an end to the low inflation and sturdy growth of the current American economy.

Saudi Arabia tightens its belt for lean years

By Nicholas Moore

RIYADH — Unthinkable a few years ago, Saudi Arabia is having to worry about its bank balance just like everyone else.

In a world awash with oil, Saudi output is less than half a 1980 peak of 10 million barrels daily. Budget revenue in the fiscal year that ended this month was \$46 billion, down from 100 billion in 1981.

"We have to adapt ourselves in a constructive way to the new circumstances," King Fahd told his semi-desert kingdom's nine million people in a televised speech introducing a new budget and a five-year plan running to 1990.

Just before the budget the government dropped plans for a new oil refinery — one on which orders worth nearly a billion dollars had already been placed.

For two years, Saudi Arabia has offset lower oil income by drawing on overseas assets hoarded in the 1970s boom years when it earned

more of the rest of the world's money than Western and Asian salesmen who swarmed here could induce it to spend.

Saudi Arabia is secretive about just how much is stashed away. "It is impolite to ask someone what he has in the bank," smiles Finance Minister Mohammad Ali Abal-Khalil.

But a consensus among Western bankers puts the "nest egg" around \$100 billion, not all of it easily accessible, down from a peak nearer 150 billion.

This year Mr. Abal-Khalil decided to try to stop the drawdown of capital. Rather than finance a third successive budget deficit from the depleted reserve, he proposed to cut state spending, already sharply down, by another six per cent and balance his 1985/86 budget at 200 billion riyals (\$55.4 billion).

Foreign bankers said the revenue target looked optimistic, but that, on past form, Saudi budgets

should be seen mainly as statements of intent.

The intent seemed clear enough. The kingdom should husband its bank balance as a source of revenue — the assets yield annual interest of nearly \$10 billion — during a period stretching to the end of the decade in which no real rebound in the oil market can be confidently predicted.

Balance between income and spending was the basic strategy of the new budget and the 1985-90 five-year plan, Mr. Nazer said.

With 80 per cent of all Saudi economic activity ultimately dependent on budgetary disbursement of state revenue, the tough line seemed to spell lean times. But Western diplomats said it was wrong to speculate that, at least in the short term, the relative austerity meant real hardship and attendant unrest.

They predicted squeals and bankruptcies among businessmen hitherto helped by lavish government subsidies and building

contracts, but who are now being invited to repatriate some of their own hoards to help keep the non-oil economy growing.

But as King Fahd stressed, the oil glut has come at a time when Saudi Arabia has completed most of its major projects.

Listing achievements in the 15 years of the oil bonanza, he stressed those designed to benefit the mass of Saudis. Doctors now numbered 14,000, up from 1,000. Some 550,000 homes had been built. Two million youngsters were in school.

Officials say an outside world dazzled by a facade of Saudi opulence fails to see a stubborn legacy of pre-boom poverty.

The U.S.-based Population Reference Bureau estimates life expectancy in Saudi Arabia at 55 years, the Arab World's lowest except for Oman and Sudan. Expatriate doctors say they are alarmed by the high incidence of trachoma, a disease causing blindness, and maternal and infant

mortality. A majority of adults is probably illiterate. The population is likely to double by the end of the century and 200,000 educated young Saudis already enter the job market each year.

The five-year plan addresses potential long-term problems, proposing to spend nearly \$65 billion on development in the health and "human resources" sectors, chiefly education.

With the end of an era of mega-projects like oil refineries, chemical factories, marble-clad ministers' offices and the three-billion-dollar Riyadh Airport, planners see the civilian work force actually declining one per cent by 1990.

So the new plan says 600,000 immigrant workers among perhaps two million from Yemen, Egypt, South and East Asia and the West will be shed, to make room for a new breed of Saudi

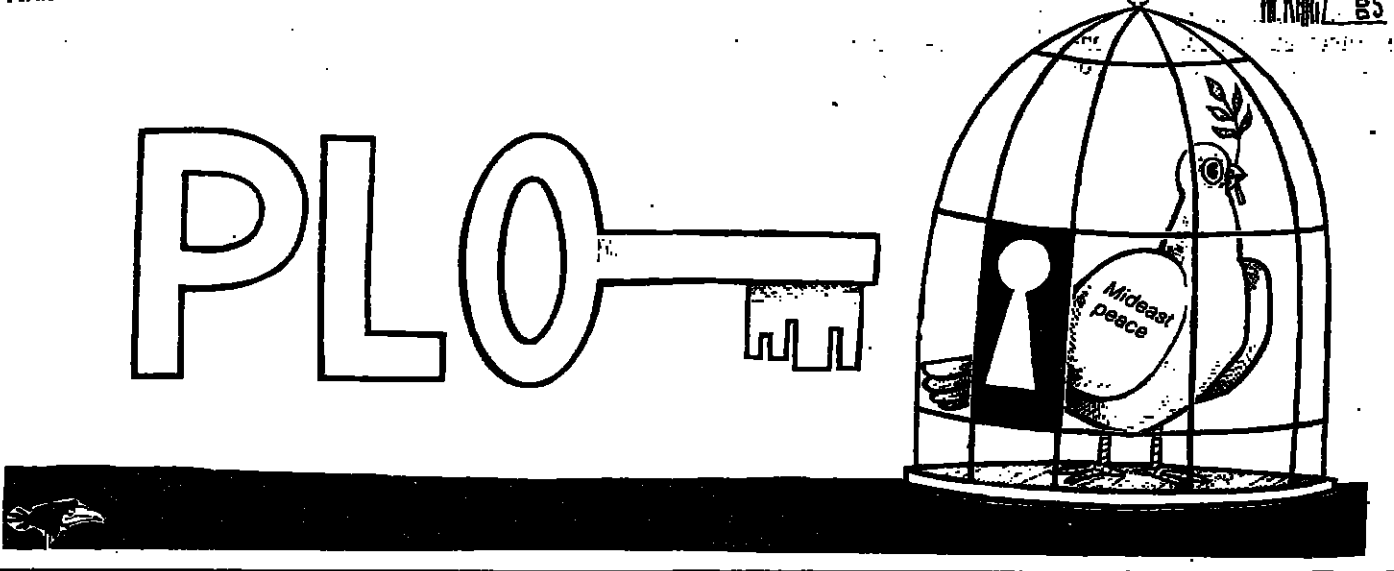
Arabian "productive citizen workers".

Western diplomats and bankers said income from the fickle oil market might yet determine how far aspirations would be met by the plan, which envisages recurrent and development spending of 1,000 billion riyals (\$277 billion) by 1990.

"It seems to me a brave gamble," said one banker. "Last year they raised 170 billion riyals in revenue. Now 200 billion is projected for the new year and, apparently, for the next five. We will be looking to see where it comes from, if not from oil."

He and other analysts said another imponderable was whether private entrepreneurs, as the planners say they must, would invest more of their own wealth to maintain growth and create enough of the sort of jobs educated young Saudis will want.

Arab News



Tunis tones down its rash promises

After the riots of a year ago, moderate improvements in Tunisia's economy have revived the popularity of Prime Minister M. Zali and enabled him to hold down wage rises. However, uncertainty over a successor to President Bourguiba continues to worry the country's leaders, as Francis Giles, recently in Tunis, reports.

Mr. Mohamed M. Zali, the Tunisian prime minister, whose image was severely battered along with that of the whole ruling elite by the riots of a year ago, has staged a remarkable recovery.

The rioting, in which 120 died, was blamed on Mr. Driss Guiga, the then interior minister, who was dismissed and tried in absentia for high treason.

Thus, Mr. M. Zali had rid himself of one rival. However, such is the interminable jockeying for power evident in Tunisian politics that he has gained two more in the process. One is the head of the security forces, General Zine El Abidine Ben Ali; the other is the man to whom Gen. Ben Ali reports, Mr. Habib Bourguiba Jr., son of the 84-year-old president of the country.

The problems the country faces and who is to deal with them when President Bourguiba is no longer in power are the subject of endless intrigue in Tunis, but outside the capital Mr. M. Zali has been receiving a warm welcome from his countrymen. He has also been making some attempt to address Tunisia's economic difficulties.

He is trying to encourage investment in the much neglected farming sector and is actively promoting economic cooperation with Algeria. This can only help Tunisian manufacturers hit by recession and protectionism in European markets.

He has been less inclined to make rash promises; the days are gone when 30 per cent increases in the basic wage were granted with no promise of higher productivity

from the trade unions. Last year there were no wage increases despite an inflation rate unofficially estimated to be above 10 per cent.

The country's economic performance has in many ways helped the prime minister. Gross Domestic Product increased by 4.8 per cent in 1984, less than the 5.4 per cent predicted by the planners, but slightly better than what was achieved in 1983. Output increased in the farming, building and manufacturing sectors but declined in those most important for trade — chemical industries, textiles, crude oil and tourism.

The labour market also suffered: only 41,000 new jobs were available against the planners' forecast of 54,000, not good news in a country where at least one-quarter of the working population has no job or is severely underemployed.

Investment targets have been overshoot, however, by about 10 per cent since the Five-Year Development Plan (1982-86) was launched. Dinars 5.09 billion (\$ 6.15 billion) have been invested, of which around 20 per cent originates from the Middle East.

Some of this money is being channelled by the recently established Tunisian Arab Development Bank towards large prestige projects, notably in the field of tourism and real estate. Mr. Ismail Kheili, the highly articulate minister of planning, voiced strong opposition to some of the projects, particularly the Tabarka tourist resort in northern Tunisia, at a time when money is tight. But Mr. Kheili belongs to a

breed of which there are too few in the Tunisian government today. Last June, he sent the cabinet a very cautious economic forecast and was rapped over the knuckles for his pains.

There is little doubt that the continuing recession in the West, the probable entry of Spain and Portugal into the European Community (EC), which will further hit Tunisian exports, and the powerful dollar leave little room for manoeuvre.

Mr. M. Zali's active support for the policy of rapprochement with Algeria may help to some extent. Earlier this month, accompanied by his Algerian counterpart, Mr. Abdulhamid Brahimi, he laid the foundation stones of a number of joint ventures.

The two countries have gone one step further and are now buying their coffee, sugar and tea together.

Problems with the dollar are affecting Tunisia's foreign debt. A very reasonable dinars 3 billion, the cost of servicing it amounts to just under 20 per cent of foreign income. But because two thirds of it is denominated in dollars, Saudi riyals and Kuwaiti dinars, the rise in the dollar will increase these costs this year by about one fifth. Greater worry centres on the external account. A trade deficit of \$1.2 billion and a shortfall on the current account of \$709 million are increasing in dollar terms and all projections point to further deterioration.

On the political front, the government faces two daunting problems: the rejuvenation of the ruling Socialist Destour Party and the reduction of the insidious rise in corruption.

The first, a daunting task, has been entrusted to a widely respected man, Tunisia's former ambassador in Algiers, Mr. Hedi



Tunisia strongman M. M'Zali

Baccouche. To succeed, he will probably require a minor miracle. No student on the capital's much troubled university campus dare admit he belongs to the PSD for fear of attacks from Muslim fundamentalist or left-wing sympathisers, and opposition party members are also increasingly subject to beatings from unknown thugs.

Tunisia still boasts a competent civil service but too many heads of state companies and other senior officials have in recent years been appointed on grounds which are not those of competence alone. Instability in the tenure of such jobs is neither encouraging bright young Tunisians to run for them nor is it helping those who hold them to respect the high standards of honesty which were, for many years, one of the hallmarks of President Bourguiba's regime.

Last year's riots constituted a severe warning to the ruling elite but it is not clear whether they generated the hard thinking necessary to put things right. Some believe this will not be possible while President Bourguiba is alive. — Financial Times news feature.

LETTERS

Too late Carter blues

To the Editor:

FORMER U.S. President Jimmy Carter said in an interview Sunday that the Reagan administration must negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and criticised Mr. Reagan for ignoring the Jordanian-Palestinian peace initiative by saying Mr. Reagan is "wasting his time". Such a statement coming from former U.S. president at a time when the Reagan administration has turned a cold shoulder to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative is undoubtedly welcomed by all peace-loving people, but somehow it is soon forgotten because of its wrong timing.

Had Mr. Carter said these same words at the time when he was at the helm in Washington, things would have turned out different now; who knows? Maybe peace could have been achieved way before Mr. Reagan became president, and Mr. Carter would have gone down in history as the president who brought peace to the Middle East.

But we all know that Mr. Carter all through his four years of leadership refused to take that giant step to negotiate with the PLO. Yet, he now raises his voice in criticism of Mr. Reagan. Although we neither doubt the logic in his criticism nor his sincerity in voicing them, we believe Mr. Carter should have listened to these same words voiced during his administration whereby he could have done more good to all the people in the Middle East and human rights in general.

At this stage, we can only wish that Mr. Carter's idea, late as it may be, could be implemented by Mr. Reagan who now calls the shots and whose words are the ones that count. You're 6 years late Jimmy. The ball is in Ron's court now.

Rosemarie Ehrhardt, Amman.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

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The British Council wishes to announce the commencement of the new term on April 13, 1985. Classes are for adults, aged 17 and over.

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 April 1 - April 3
 April 6 - April 7

Placement Testing 9.00 - 11.00
 3.00 - 5.00
 Registration 9.00 - 12.00
 3.00 - 6.00

A fee of JD 0.500 will be charged for testing.

Works of Arab artists displayed in New York

NEW YORK — Under the sponsorship of the Arab Women's Council, 12 Arab artists displayed their works at the opening of an exhibit in the Dag Hammarskjöld tower in New York City March 27.

Mrs. Riyadh Al-Qaysi, wife of the ambassador of Iraq to the United Nations and the patron of the art show, said she planned this particular exhibit in order to bring Arab artists and their work to the attention of the American people. She said the council wanted to show Americans the idea behind the Arab Council and Arab art.

"Everyone understands art", she said. "It can relay a message which is understood in all languages and by all nations."

The list of invited guests for the opening included members of various American women's groups, diplomats, art critics, representatives of New York art galleries and the guest of honour, Mrs. Marcelle Perez de Cuellar, wife of the secretary-general of the United Nations. Mrs. Perez de Cuellar praised the Arab Women's Council for arranging "such a fine cultural event."

This exhibit could have a definite appeal for the general American public. As Saleh N. Hassan, Lebanese master calligrapher, put it: "American people like to know

everything about everything." Mr. Hassan's artistic messages on canvas were mostly of a religious nature. They conveyed their sentiments in colour and shading, even to those who were unable to read the words or understand the real meaning.

Mr. Hassan, who showed 18 of his impressive pieces, has lived in the United States for the past three years. He came to the United States at the invitation of an advertising agency which engaged him to train American artists in the techniques of calligraphy. Mr. Hassan, who has exhibited widely here and abroad, is the recipient of several distinguished awards. He had high praise for the artistic freedom found in this country. "In addition," he said, "no matter what media you wish to use, all techniques are available to you in the United States. You can find whatever you want or need. And you can learn a lot because there are so many famous and skilled artists living here."

Looking to the future, he said that he expects to be further influenced by his life in the United States. He plans to create a special style of calligraphy in English using Arabic designs in combination with English lettering.

Baha Omary of Syria has been seen in individual shows in Was-

hington, Quebec, London, Brussels and at the United Nations in New York. A reviewer once described some of her works as "indigenous scenes from home, clothed in a misty kind of impressionism that learned its vocabulary of softened squares and cubes from villages jumbled together on narrow streets."

Mrs. Omary says she likes life in the United States so much that she has remained here for the past 15 years. To the sound of a shababeh (block flute), invited guests leisurely wandered through two floors of the exhibit sipping tea out of aistikan (teacup), admiring — and some buying — from the broad selection of styles and mediums of artwork available.

Raouf Zarrouk, who was born in Carthage, Tunisia, said he began painting at the age of 15, while attending the French Academy of Arts in Paris. His career was launched almost immediately when the late Jean Cocteau, the French writer and poet, sponsored his first exhibition in Paris in 1962.

Mr. Zarrouk has had individual shows in Paris, London and New York. His paintings span the globe in private collections and museums.

Two years ago he began painting on silk and within months his work was selling from coast to

coast. In addition to his framed works, he displayed an array of brightly coloured painted silk scarves with varying motifs some inspired by Picasso.

Najim Ali, a sculptor from Iraq, came to the United States five years ago in order to obtain his master's credits at Pratt Institute in New York City. With his bachelor's degree from the Academy of Fine Arts in Baghdad, Ali had been a teacher in Iraq for several years. His work has been commissioned by private collectors in Europe, the Middle East and by national organisations in Iraq.

Ali works mostly in bronze, hammered copper and wood. He credits his teachers at Pratt Institute for having given him encouragement and inspiration in his work. "Our art in Iraq is quite traditional," he said. "And I am now trying to broaden the scope of my art. It takes a lot of time to develop."

To those viewing his work, the appeal seemed definitely international.

Naji Al-Hasani is a Lebanese artist, architect, photographer, free lance writer, and lecturer. Al-Hasani described the collection as "reflective of Arab culture."

"The bottom line of most of the

artist here, I think, is derived from the Arab World," he explained. "The theme at least, is derivative. Our artists, however, are definitely avant-gard. They have travelled widely throughout the world and they have added touches to what is generally conceived as Arabic art. But, there is something that still relates to Arabic art, especially in terms of the subject matter. The cityscapes and the architecture portray this way of life."

Take for instance Eman Haram (a Palestinian artist). She portrays that way of life, as does Sajida Alwan, (an Iraqi painter and one of the organisers of the show), and Raghida Gandour (a Lebanese artist).

Elsie Huri, another Lebanese artist with Greek parental influence, depicts Arab folk life predominantly from the woman's point of view. Her "Wedding Ceremony," a simply charming work in China ink and acrylic, hints at a French influence.

Lina Rasanmy of Lebanon displayed bronzed figures entitled "Jazz" that seemed to catch everyone's eye. The youthful artist had turned from painting to sculpture only two years ago and looks forward to continuing in this media.

Mr. Al-Hasani said he believed that Arab artists living in the U.S. are mixing well with their American colleagues. Many of them now live in the Soho area in New York City and their way of life has become very similar to that of American artists.

"The most difficult thing for an Arab artist working here, however, is to become flexible about presenting his culture in pictorial form," Mr. Al-Hasani said. "In other words, he or she has to be more sensitive to simplification of themes. A very complicated theme may not be well received or well understood here."

"A lot of Arab artists are already becoming more receptive to the problem and are reducing detail in their work," he observed. "One of the definitions of Arab art is that it is very decorative. I myself, don't think that is true because Arab art originated with abstractions, based on geometry. I would really like to see Arab artists stick to that and yet, at the same time, be less emphatic, less insistent on the repetition of geometric forms which may obscure the theme. In other words, they should simplify instead of elaborating on it just because it is within them" — U.S. Information Agency.

Fighting the pop pirates

By Susannah Tarbush

CAIRO — If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then Egyptian singer Mohammad Muniir is highly successful. Muniir's recording company Sonar is suffering the effects of a flood of counterfeit tapes of his albums.

Sonar, which was founded by Egypt in 1976 by Hani Sabet and his partner Kamal, owns the SLAMI, Sonar and American Jet pre-recorded cassette labels. The SLAMI label alone is said to account for 50 per cent of Egypt's Western music cassette market, and 20 per cent of the Arab market.

It was six years ago that Sabet discovered the young Nubian singer in the music conservatory at Zamalek. The tall, thin musician retains a certain diffidence, but the bags of fan mail in Sabet's office from girls all over the Arab World are testimony to his popularity.

Muniir's career took off four years ago, and, according to Sabet, volume sales of cassettes of his first four albums have reached round 780,000.

Last year he suffered a personal tragedy with the death of Abdul-Rahim Mansour, a writer who had produced the lyrics for many of his songs. But Muniir has been working on a new album which should be released at the end of Ramadan. He has also had some success in the film industry, and appeared in Youssef Shahin's "An Egyptian Story."

"The piracy started two years ago on a small scale; now it is an invasion," says Sabet. He has traced counterfeiters to locations around the globe, including Cyprus, Singapore, Marseille, London, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Sabet believes piracy has cost the company \$2m in lost sales.

Sabet has been seeking action by the London-based International Federation of Phonogram and Videogram Producers (IFPI). IFPI protects the



The real thing: Egyptian singer Mohammad Muniir

interests of its members by encouraging the adoption of legislation to protect copyright, and by trying to ensure such laws are enforced.

The IFPI's anti-piracy officer Mike Edwards says there is much piracy of Arabic material in Europe. He cites the example of a large anti-piracy operation in the south of France coordinated by the federation, in which 400,000 cassettes of Arabic material originating in Milan were seized.

Much of the pirated material is destined for the "young expatriate Arab population in France and Britain."

Sabet has tried to become a member of IFPI, but he has a problem: by his own admission, he started his career as a pirate.

It is relatively recently that Egypt has passed legislation to outlaw piracy. In 1977 it acceded to the Phonograms Convention, and in 1981 it adopted a decree on copyright.

Sabet says he turned to piracy because, while the major Western

recording companies demanded enormous sums (as high as \$100,000) from licensees, there was at that time no protection of licensees under Egyptian law.

Sabet visited IFPI in London in late 1983 to press his case, but was refused membership. "We can't entertain an application by someone who's pirating cassettes," says Edwards.

But Sabet refutes IFPI's assertions. "They try to divert (attention) from the real problem — they use wrong information from our domestic competitors," Sabet told "The Middle East." He describes the attitude of IFPI as "a neo-colonialist situation."

Sonar has paid-up capital of £70,000 (\$84,337) and working capital of £1.1m. In 1984 it had a turnover of £2.2m compared with £250,000 in 1978.

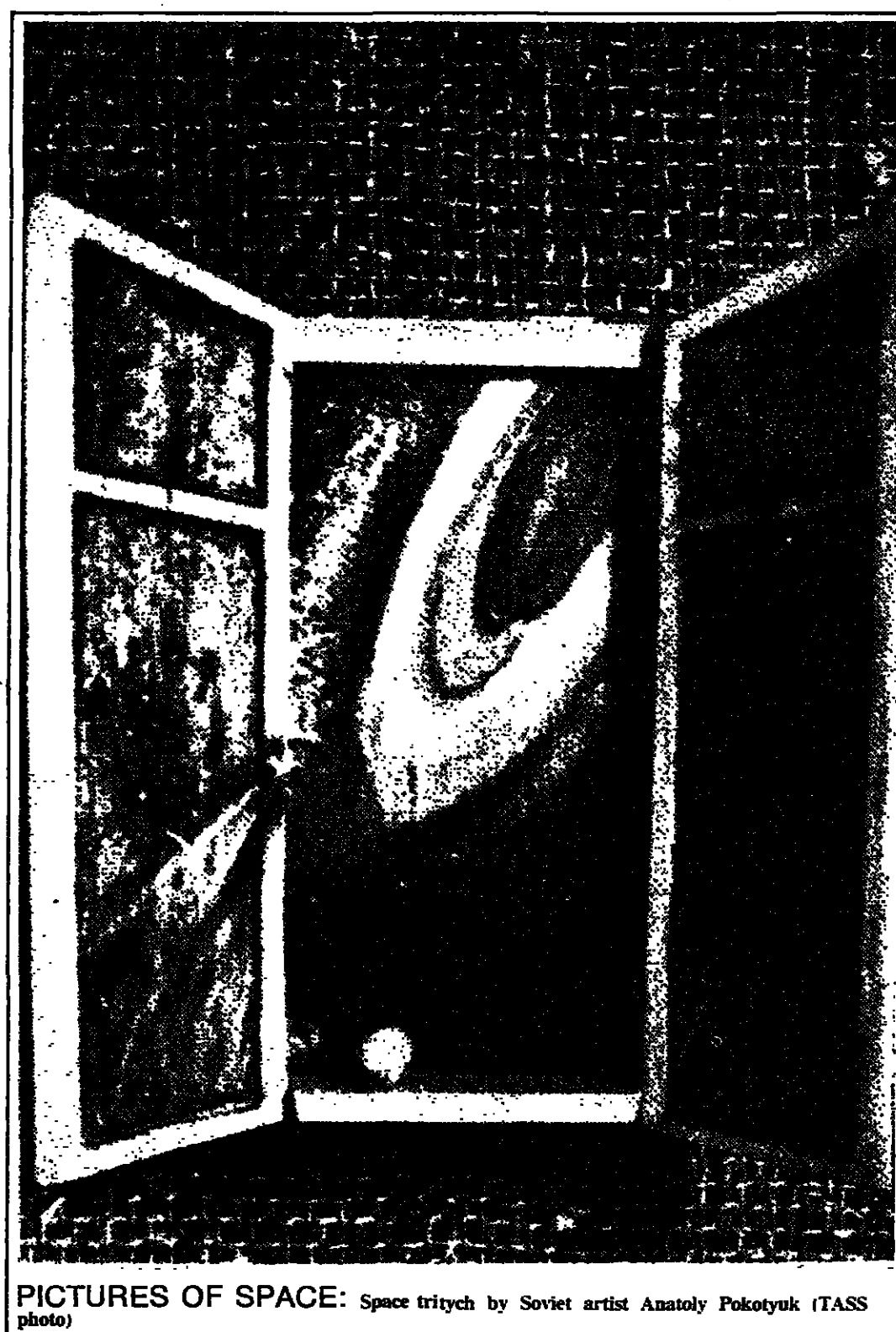
Half of Sonar's business is in music production, and half in hi-fi and other audio-electronic consumer goods. It has a number of agencies and is exclusive agent for Marantz of the U.S., and Nakamichi, Denon and Onkyo of Japan.

It claims a 50 per cent share of the Egyptian hi-fi market. Recently Sonar has been working to transform itself from a limited liability to a joint-stock company with capital of £600,000.

Sonar is particularly keen to increase its output of Arabic music, and has promoted a "new Egyptian sound" combining popular Egyptian music with Western instruments using advanced recording techniques.

Purists may frown, but the sound has proved highly commercial, and Sabet is hoping that his new protégé, the Libyan Hamid Al-Shairi, will enjoy success similar to that of Mohammad Muniir.

Perhaps the most telling sign that Shairi has made it as a star will be the widespread appearance of counterfeit tapes of his music — The Middle East Magazine, London.



PICTURES OF SPACE: Space tritich by Soviet artist Anatoly Pokotyuk (TASS photo)

Panda Habibs

Charmingly admirable fools

I HAVE already warned you...

It was enough for you, to make the connection between my corner Monday and the front page interview with Mel Brooks.

I said it was the 1st of April and on that day one should practise all his lying talents. This is what I have actually done. The experience was very fascinating. I personally answered 79 calls from readers who were interested to take part in Brooks' production "History of James Bond." This without counting those who called the Jordan Times for the same purpose.

I have also received 12 calls from people who guessed it was a joke but nevertheless called to turn the tables on me. I had on the line Mel Brooks, James Bond, actors from Broadway and even a message from Mrs. Barbara Brooks to her husband Mel...

Those who called because they were fooled can be divided into three categories.

Those full of hope, dreams and timidity — mostly young girls who for a short while believed in "the big chance". One of them in particular, who said she had a 40-second experience in acting in a film abroad, broke by heart.

I felt annoyed for having to tell her all this was a big lie. I wish I could have realised her dreams.

The second category included mainly men, very sure of themselves. Professional actors or actors-to-be. Very hard it was to make them swallow all this was a joke. One of them had this marvelous reaction: "What do you mean a lie?... It's in the newspaper isn't it?"

Finally, there was the humorous type which burst into laughter when told what it was about and admitted to being the fools of April, wondering if they were the first to be fooled.

One of those even told me he was planning to send the Mel Brooks interview to the film-maker himself. Why not? Perhaps Mr. Brooks will seriously consider shooting a film in Jordan.

Anyhow, to you all, thanks for being what you are; faithful readers, good sports and very very admirable "fools."

German submariner remembers the sinking of The Lusitania

By Paul Holmes

Reader

BOCHUM, West Germany — German submariner Hermann Lepper saw the Lusitania just one in his life but the image of the doomed liner has haunted him for 70 years.

Mr. Lepper, 90, is the only survivor of U-Boat U-20, the German World War I submarine that sent the pride of the British Cunard passenger fleet to the bottom of the Irish Sea.

The sinking, on May 7, 1915, of the unprotected, unarmed vessel was one of the worst shipping disasters of the century and fostered the climate that was to propel the United States into the war against Germany in 1917.

Of the 1,959 passengers on board the luxury transatlantic steamer, 1,198 perished, including 118 neutral U.S. citizens.

There was a colossal explosion on the Lusitania just after we fired our torpedo, 19 minutes later she was gone. We couldn't save a soul," Mr. Lepper told Reuters in an interview.

An outraged Britain condemned the attack as cold-blooded murder. Germany struck a medal showing death issuing tickets for the fateful voyage at the Cunard offices in New York.

Mr. Lepper, who now lives in a nursing home in the Ruhr city of Bochum, tells a different tale. "If the captain had known it was the Lusitania, he would never have sunk it," he said.

The 31,500-ton Lusitania was en route from New York to Liverpool and was the first major casualty of a German submarine blockade of the waters around the British Isles.

The German embassy in Washington had placed advertisements in U.S. newspapers advising passengers against boarding the steamer, but there was no warning the day it was hit.

Mr. Lepper, then a 20-year-old able seaman, spotted the Lusitania at about 1.30 p.m. from the bridge of the U-20 off old head of Kinsale, within sight of the south coast of Ireland.

"I saw four funnels and clouds of smoke and thought there were several ships. None of us knew it was the Lusitania."

Minutes later U-boat Captain Walther Schwieger gave orders to dive and ready the torpedoes.

Only one torpedo left its tube, but it scored a direct hit. When Mr. Schwieger peered through the periscope, the dreadful truth dawned. "My God it's the Lusitania and she's full of people," Mr. Lepper remembers Capt. Schwieger telling the 36 crew.

The Times newspaper, in a graphic account of the sinking, described the explosion as a "loud, voluminous boom" and spoke of a hush of horror on board the stricken liner.

"There was no screaming at the last, only a long, wailing, mournful, despairing, beseeching cry."

When Mr. Schwieger and his crew surfaced to survey the scene from the distance, there was almost nothing to see.

"All that was left were splintered planks, chairs and other debris floating on the surface. You don't forget something like that, you just can't," Mr. Lepper said.

He remembers that his captain waited 24 hours before reporting the sinking. "We'd best not boast about this."

Women's film festival vs Cannes monopoly

By Juliette Rouillon

Reader

PARIS — An annual International Women's Film Festival has come out of the feminist ghetto and made its first steps towards breaking the monopoly of Cannes as the only film fair in France.

"Distribution of the films we chose for the festival on the French market and for television is our priority," says Elisabeth Trehard, who with Jackie Buet created the festival in the Paris suburb of Creteil.

The prestigious festival in Cannes has been alone until now in providing an organised French market for stars and distribution houses from all over the world.

The organisers describe the creation of a professional film market at their festival as an important challenge to Cannes, although they caution it is still at an experimental stage.

This year's festival — with 51 competing films from 18 countries — attracted several distributors as well as more than 20,000 spectators, far better than in previous years.

The festival, created in 1979 but limited until this year to a committed feminist audience, cost 1.8 million francs (\$180,000) and was financed partly by the Women's Rights Ministry under Yvette Roudy.

"For the first time this year, negotiations started at the festival

for distribution in France of the three prizewinning films in the next few months. This is a notable success in taking these films out of their ghetto," said Ms. Trehard.

Ms. Buet said they had been trying to open the French market to non-commercial women's films ever since the creation of the women's film festival.

She noted that West German Director Helma Sanders was almost unknown in France until her films such as "Under Dem Pflaster, Liegt Der strand" (under the pavement lies the beach) and "Deutschland, Bleiche Mutter" (Germany, pale mother) were shown in the festival.

This year's first prize was awarded to "Kacik Dusmani" (the wedding room), by Turkish Director Bilge Olagac.

Ms. Olagac was not allowed out of Turkey to attend the festival. Actress Louise Menase, who represented her at the prizegiving ceremony, said the film director had been awaiting trial since shortly after the military coup in 1980.

Using more humour than her male compatriot Yilmaz Guney in "Yo!" — which won the golden palm at the Cannes Festival in 1982 — Ms. Olagac tells in her film how Turkish society is torn between the conflicting lifestyles of East and West.

Ms. Olagac was a novelist before coming to cinema. Although she directed 18 films between 1964

and 1975, "Kacik Dusmani" was her first for 10 years.

The other prizewinners were "La Femme de L'Hotel" (the

hotel woman) by French-Canadian Lea Pool, and Mai Zetterling's "Scrubbbers", a British film.

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Chinese official ordered off the bench China captures Table Tennis World titles

GOTHENBURG, Sweden (R) — China's table tennis stars left their rivals as baffled as ever as they captured both team titles at the World Championships, but completed their triumph on a controversial note Tuesday.

China's men trounced hosts Sweden 5-0 in the final to take the crown for the ninth time in the last 13 championships, while the Chinese women's 3-0 rout of North Korea was marked by an extraordinary incident midway through their final.

Chinese official Zheng Min Zhi was ordered off the bench for illegal coaching, but he refused to go and there was an 11 minutes delay before the champions' head-coach Zhang Xie Lin persuaded her to move a few metres away.

Yet Zheng went back to the bench shortly afterwards and the match was interrupted for three minutes during the third Rubber. Zhang said later: "There

appeared to be some misunderstanding."

The coaching from the side was scarcely needed because the Chinese women were immensely superior. World singles champion Cao Yanhua was never included in their team, who did not concede a Rubber in nine matches on their way to the championship for the sixth consecutive time.

The Chinese men's success in a repeat of the previous world final in Tokyo two years ago underlined the depth and quality of their resources.

World number one Jiang Jialiang and Xie Saikie were the only two members of the squad who also played in 1983, and second-ranked Xie was not in-

cluded in Tuesday night's victorious line-up.

Sweden, dispatched 5-1 in Tokyo, did not manage to win a Rubber this time, although their emerging 19-year-old star Jan-Ove Waldner took both Chen Longcan and Chen Xinhua to three games and Mikael Appelgren provided the partisan home crowd with moments to savour in a compelling duel with Jiang which also went to three games.

Zhang paid tribute to the host country: "The Swedish team have some very fine players and their performance in the final proved this point. I believe they can get better and that Sweden and China will be strong rivals in the future."

Swedish coach Tomas Berner said: "We know that China are so good that we have to play 100 per cent and if they do not play at their highest level we have a chance. It was a hard match but the Chinese team are the best in the world."

Hearns getting ready to face Hagler April 15

LAS VEGAS (R) — World Boxing Council (WBC) super welterweight champion Thomas Hearns arrived here late Monday night to begin final preparations for his title bout with undisputed world middleweight champion Marvin Hagler on April 15.

Hearns, who previously held the World Boxing Association (WBA) welterweight title, began sparring Tuesday at Caesars Palace, site of the multimillion-dollar bout. Before flying here, Hearns spent two weeks training in Miami after beginning his training in his hometown of Detroit.

Hearns said he now weighs 164 pounds (74.5 kg), four pounds (1.8 kg) over the middleweight limit but down from the 169 pounds (76.8 kg) he weighed when he began training in Florida after an extensive two-week promotional tour across the United States.

"Thomas is physically ready as he can be. Now we'll just be wor-

king on strategy and tactics," said his manager-trainer Emanuel Steward.

The 26-year-old Hearns has a record of 40-1 with 34 knockouts. He has won eight straight since suffering his only defeat, a 14th-round knockout by Sugar Ray Leonard.

Hagler, who is expected to arrive here on Sunday, has a record of 60-2-2 with 50 knockouts and is unbeaten in his last 35 fights. The 30-year-old champion will be making the 11th defence of the title he won in 1980 when he stopped Britain's Alan Minter.

The fight, which is already sold out, will be held in a 15,000-seat outdoor arena adjacent to the Hotel-Casino. Hagler opened as a 7-5 favourite, but the odds recently shifted to Hearns' favour and he is now listed as a 6-5 favourite.

Las Vegas oddsmakers predict that the bout will be 'even-money' at fight time.

Gomez hardly beats Duncan in 1st round

CHICAGO (R) — Third-seeded Andres Gomez of Ecuador, still rusty from a five-month layoff, was stretched to three sets by little-known American Juan Farrow Tuesday night in the \$315,000 Chicago Classic Grand Prix tennis tournament.

Gomez managed a 7-6, 4-6, 6-3 first round victory in his second tournament since a five-month break caused by a shoulder injury.

But Yannick Noah of France, seeded fourth, had no problems as he crushed American Mel Purcell 6-3, 6-2 in 50 minutes.

Purcell was defenceless against the agile Noah, who mixed a wide Arsenal of topspin and sliced gro-

undstrokes with serves that Purcell only saw after they were past him.

"Every time I put a first serve in, I knew it was an ace," Noah said.

The first round concludes Wednesday night with top seed John McEnroe of the United States facing Peter Doherty of Australia and Jimmy Connors, the second seed, playing fellow-American Jay Lapidos.

Gomez said he was not in top tournament form. "It was difficult to keep my concentration," he said. "I may beat a few guys, but I'm not going to win a tournament playing like this."

Referee evacuated by helicopter

ST GALLEN, Switzerland (R) — The referee of the Swiss First Division soccer tie Tuesday night had to be evacuated by helicopter when irate supporters of losing home side St. Gallen laid siege to the officials' cabin after the match.

Walter Nussbaumer, who had earlier sent off St. Gallen's Yugoslav defender Ladislav Jurkemik during their 2-1 defeat by Neuchatel Xamax, refused the home team a penalty just before the final whistle and pandemonium ensued.

A football league official told Reuters: "An hour after the match the referee was still trapped in the cabin. For safety reasons we decided to take him off the grounds by helicopter."

Calcutta to stage 1987 World Cup Cricket final

BOMBAY (R) — Calcutta will stage the final of the 1987 Cricket World Cup, an official of the International Cricket Conference (ICC) said Wednesday.

India, the winners of the 1983 World Cup, New Zealand, Australia and an associate member of the ICC will comprise one preliminary group with Pakistan, England, West Indies and Sri Lanka in the other.

For the first time the final will be spread over two days and umpires will be selected from different test playing countries.

ICC secretary Jack Bailey said at the end of a meeting of delegates from 10 nations that the tournament, jointly hosted by India and Pakistan, would start on October 9.

The first semifinal would be in Bombay on November 1 and the second at Lahore the following day. The final would be played on a 60-overs a side basis on November 7-8.

All the test playing countries except the West Indies were at the meeting. "The current New Zealand tour of the West Indies has kept them busy, but the West Indies have given full backing to this meeting in a tele message," Bailey said.

The associate member to join the group with India, New Zealand and Australia will be decided by a competition next year.

Argentina boosts hockey semifinal chances

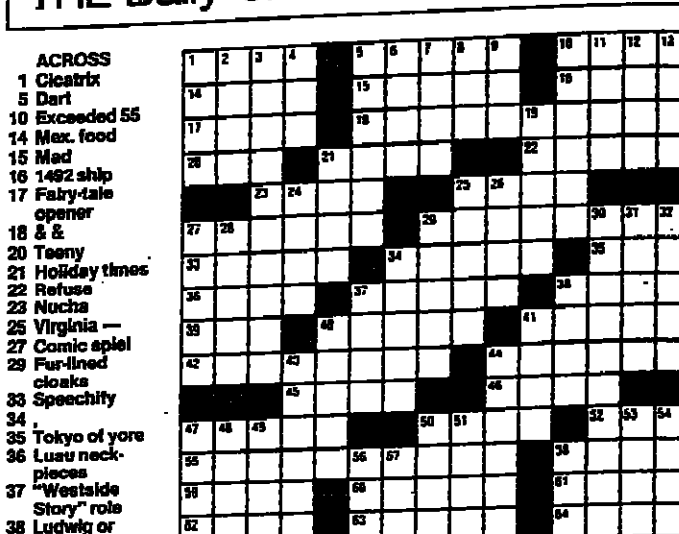
BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina virtually clinched a place in the women's Inter-Continental Cup hockey semifinals with a 1-1 draw with Japan Tuesday.

The outcome left the two countries joint leaders of Group A, one point ahead of Wales, who beat Uruguay 6-0. The final round will be played Wednesday.

Argentina face struggling Paraguay while Wales and Japan clash for the other semifinal place from the group.

Wales must triumph to qualify. The teams last met in Cardiff in November, Wales winning 2-0.

THE Daily Crossword by Nancy McCarthy



ACROSS
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14 Max. food
15 Mad
16 1482 ship
17 Fairy-tale opener
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20 Teamy
21 Holiday times
22 Refuse
23 Nucha
25 Virginia —
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33 Speechify
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35 Tokyo of yore
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37 "Westside
Story" role
38 Ludwig or
Jennings
39 U.K. member
40 A
41 Grin
42 Sons of Fr.
43 King
44 Hill's bed
45 Golf shot
46 Coly or
Descartes
47 Dorothy's pooch
48 Shako
49 relatives
50 Let it stand
52 Actor Marvin
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Seaver
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:
GALIA EASTERN AFR
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BITTERSWEET BRA
LIDA BAIN SHOAL
FISG RICHARDS
MODISE MONIEV
ALICE GAUSIEV YAK
PLAYS URN TMAIN
SIAM MAGED ALDO
DEBAS MODIST
RETREAT KAME
ABOUT SAISO MASA
YON SWEDENHARS
DIA OPTATE ANAT
NILE PARTIED RENIO

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47 Singer Smith
48 Lyric poetry
49 Ostentatious
50 Postal
51 display
52 Good
53 Spare
54 Grafted in
55 heraldry
56 Selves
57 Posters
58 Wave: Sp.
59 Fr. coin

Duncan gives hard time to Lendl

MONTE CARLO (R) — Top seed Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia was made to work hard Wednesday to oust defiant American qualifier Lawson Duncan 6-4, 6-4 in the second round of the Monte Carlo Open tennis tournament.

Lendl was unable to dictate their 100-minute duel in the sun in the way he might have anticipated from his opponent's 149th-placed international ranking.

Duncan, 20, in his first full year on the circuit, matched the French champion for most of a fought out at the baseline, and raised his hopes of a major upset when he broke Lendl's serve in the second set to move into a 3-1 lead.

But Lendl hit back immediately, breaking Duncan's service twice in succession. He also survived four break points on his own service in a marathon eighth game of five deuces, before eventually booking his place in the

last 16.

Lendl, number one seed for the fourth year in a row, has never won the Monte Carlo title and bowed out injured last year in the quarter-finals against Henrik Sundstrom of Sweden who went on to win the title.

Lendl knew nothing about his opponent before the match, but said he was not surprised by the American's bold performance.

"I figured that if he qualified he was going to hit a lot of balls back or have a big serve or something," he said.

In fact, in the qualifying rounds, Duncan defeated Israel's Shlomo Glickstein, Lendl's conqueror in the first round here two years ago.

"I had trouble hitting the ball. It's just a different game from hardcourt and indoors," Lendl added.

Lendl is far from happy with a schedule — designated by the men's International Professional Tennis Council — which has for-

ced him to cross the Atlantic for this tournament.

It is sandwiched between the Fort Myers event which Lendl won in Florida last week and next week's World Championship Tennis (WCT) finals in Dallas.

"I think the whole system stinks... I think they ought to do something about it (and) change the schedule," he said.

Duncan, whose \$2,600 prize money was more than a quarter of his entire winnings last year, was pleased with his performance.

"I think I played pretty well overall. I had some chances to win the match. He looked like he was a little tentative," he said.

Unseeded West German Michael Westphal was the first through to the quarter-finals after a surprise 7-6, 6-4 victory over seventh seed Jimmy Arias of the U.S. in the third round.

Arias said: "He played very well. I had a little trouble with my racket."

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(Colour)

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

THE TERMINATOR

(Colour)

3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

THE BORDER

Jack Nicholson

3:30 6:15 8:30 10:30 p.m.
Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

1- DEVIL LEOPARD

2- OCTOPUS

(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

HEROES' LAND

(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Selfies 1 to 5

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.2248/58	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3690/3700	Canadian dollars
	3.1050/80	West German marks
	3.5040/70	Dutch guilders
	2.6275/6305	Swiss francs
	62.40/50	Belgian francs
	9.4600/4900	French francs
	1983.07/0	Italian lire
	252.75/90	Japanese yen
	9.0050/0150	Swedish crowns
	8.9350/9500	Norwegian crowns
	11.1375/1475	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	321.00/321.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices drifted lower due to lack of support in thin trading with operators content to sit on the sidelines prior to the Easter break, dealers said. The FTSE 100 share index at 1530 GMT was down 12.7 at 1274.1.

Base rate cuts of ¼ point to 13 ½ per cent by Barclays and Midland had little effect.

British Aerospace declined 20p to 413 having said it will offer 146.9 million shares when the British government disposes of its 48.8 per cent stake in the company.

Government bonds showed gains of up to 3/16 point while gold shares were firm and North Americans were mixed.

Lasmo dropped 20p to 328 following its planned £67 million rights issue and annual results. Among other oils, B.P. was down 7p at 543 and Shell 2p easier at 723.

In lower insurance, Guardian Royal shed 28p to 665 and Sun Alliance fell 18p to 465 both having reported 1984 figures below market forecasts. Banks showed losses of up to 13p.

Blue Circle declined 26p to 490 on further consideration of Tuesday's \$145 million acquisition of Atlantic Cement Co. Inc. Among other dealers, Glaxo dropped at 1,080, Racal at 196 and P and O at 341 all eased 10p while ICI fell 12p to 757.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1985

YOUR DAILY
Horoscope
from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: After an early morning upset, you will be able to handle whatever arises in a resourceful manner, especially if you do so with more than usual charm and cleverness.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you don't argue over money with partners, you find that later you can discuss matters between you objectively.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An associate can give you trouble in the morning, but later you can work out a monetary matter well and forget it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Forget that worry about some job in the morning, and later you can go after what you most want and get it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Steer clear of a demanding new acquaintance in the morning, and later you can plan a new campaign of action.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid an irate higher-up and be with the persons you like. Make sure your car is in good running order.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Forget making some drastic and costly changes, and get into your duties with vim and vigor. Don't be afraid to ask for a favor.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't carp over a debt, but put some new ideas to work that can bring you added income quickly. Learn from new contacts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Avoid a partner who is irate. Be with your mate for a delightful day and evening. Show that you are practical.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Steer clear of a disturbed co-worker, and then talk over with clever friends how you want the relationships to trend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get busy at duties ahead of you. Don't spend money on pleasures. Make your home life more charming by changing your attitude.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get into some form of recreation in the outdoors that can relieve the tensions you are under. Express some talent you have.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get home affairs nicely handled, and don't go flying off on some tangent. Bring out that Piscean charm and make others happy.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Being rebellious and breaking promises would get you nowhere fast, especially since later you are able to put your ideas to good use and get the support to make your dreams come true.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you don't run off on some tangent, you find that good things can happen. Show that you have a good head on your shoulders.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't change your mind about some investment in the morning. Take time for some social pleasure in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Forget that errand wish in the morning. Show your true devotion for your mate. This brings about greater happiness in the days ahead.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't force another to do what you wish in the morning. Later you can be with good friends. The evening can be happy.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid that argument between a good friend and an attachment, and find an easier way of gaining your personal aims.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You feel like making drastic changes both at home and in business, but this would not be wise. Stick to your regular duties.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Forget that unnecessary errand, and concentrate on how to improve your regular set-up. Show associates you want to get along famously with them now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Forget financial worries and listen to what an expert has to tell you concerning ways to make greater progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Find some way of gaining more self control, and then make the changes that you deem wise. Plan a necessary trip to solve a problem.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You want to turn against work ahead of you but soon change your mind and become very efficient. Use the right words.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Some private anxiety could deter you from making plans for entertainment you like if you permit. Work out affairs sensibly.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan what should be done so that you can gain that feeling of well being you desire. Don't give anyone cause for criticism.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be one who will view everything clearly and reasonably and will analyze all sides of any situation before coming to a decision. Teach to finish one project before going on to another. A lover of sports here.

Union Bank of the Middle East takes over troubled Dubai Bank

DUBAI (R) — The fourth largest bank in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Dubai Bank, was Wednesday taken over by state-run Union Bank of the Middle East (UBME) in what officials described as a move to protect the UAE banking sector.

UBME chairman and minister of state for finance Mr. Ahmad Humaid Al Ta'yer told a press conference the acquisition became necessary when auditors found the bank had negative net worth.

It has been burdened by bad loans and expensive property assets in Singapore, Bankers say.

Shareholders, led by Dubai merchants Abdul Rahim and Abdul Latif Galadari who together held 70 per cent of the bank, will receive one dirham (27 cents) per share with the total purchase price reaching 1.47 million dirhams (\$399,000).

Mr. Al Ta'yer said the bank's assets and liabilities at the end of last year were 3.4 billion dirhams (\$923 million).

Foreign shareholders are Credit Suisse and Wells Fargo, which

held 7.4 per cent each.

Mr. Al Ta'yer said the move was "in accordance with the declared intentions of the government of Dubai to strengthen the banking sector by creating a strong national institution."

He said Dubai Bank, which would become a wholly-owned subsidiary of UBME, would have access to an open credit line from the Dubai government, which owns 73 per cent of UBME.

"What we need we'll get," he said.

Bankers said the Dubai government had already pumped in more than 200 million dirhams (\$54 million) in long-term placements with the bank since engineering a shakeup of its management last February.

In the shakeup, Mr. Abdul Rahim Galadari was replaced as chairman by National Bank of Dubai chairman Mr. Sultan Ali Al Owais, and five bank directors were sacked.

Mr. Al Ta'yer said the takeover completed a process of state reorganisation of the banking sector in Dubai emirates.

EC farm ministers fail to rein spending

LUXEMBOURG (R) — The future of bold plans to rein in European Community (EC) farm spending and cut mounting food surpluses was in doubt Wednesday after the group's farm ministers failed to agree on a crucial prices package, diplomats said.

The 10 ministers Tuesday called off a delayed attempt to fix farm prices for the 1985 farm year, barely 24 hours after starting a special session aimed at bridging wide divisions over proposals for a virtual price freeze.

Italian Farm Minister Filippo Pandolfi, whose country currently holds the Community's rotating presidency, told reporters differences were so great there was no point in continuing.

West Germany, which refused to consider cuts in the key cereals sector, was blamed by other countries for the impasse.

Farm Commissioner Frans Andriessen has proposed cereal cuts of 3.6 per cent, under rules set

up to limit over-production by price reductions. The Community has a cereal surplus of some 15 million tonnes, likely to swell to as much as 26 million following a bumper harvest last year.

The ministers should have reached agreement by April 1 when the new farm year began. They agreed to resume a search for a deal on April 22 and "rolled over" existing arrangements until the end of the month.

Community farm spending last year soared to 19 billion European Currency Units (\$14 billion), sparking a budget crisis and leading to the introduction of tougher controls on expenditure.

Mr. Andriessen says this year's price package, which also includes cuts for some fruit and vegetables, honours the financial guidelines agreed last year by keeping total spending broadly stable.

Italy and Greece are strongly opposed to cuts for citrus fruits and Ireland is vehemently against

plans for further cuts on dairy output.

But diplomats said the cereals problem was the key to a settlement. They said a deal may finally only be clinched by a commitment to reexamine present rules.

"On cereals, there were two utterly opposing camps. We may now have to be thinking in terms of a medium term strategy for the common agricultural policy," Mr. Pandolfi said. "There has been no possibility of anyone budging on the issue."

India to invest

\$24 billion in

electronics.

NEW DELHI (AP) — India will invest 320 billion rupees (\$24.6 billion) over the next five years in the electronics industry, which Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has called the "nerve centre" of the modernisation programme, the government said Wednesday.

"The electronics industry in India has been planned to grow at an average annual growth rate of over 35 per cent during the next five years, ... a five-fold growth in five years," an official press statement said.

The statement quoted Electronics Commission Chairman M.S. Rao as saying 44 per cent of the electronics investment would be in the private sector.

The investment would be in the fields of components, consumer electronics, aerospace and defence, communication and broadcasting, computers, and control, instrumentation and industrial electronics, the release said.

Mr. Gandhi, considered a computer buff, has liberalised economy policy to allow import of technology, especially in the field of electronics.

Investors hold on to dollar

LONDON (R) — The dollar's standing as the world's major currency for trade and investment has been little affected by its recent drop in value on world currency markets, international fund managers and financial analysts say.

Over the past two weeks the dollar lost over 7.5 per cent of its value against other leading currencies such as the German mark, but this did not panic investors to jettison their holdings of dollar assets or scramble for alternatives.

There is still no long-term alternative to the dollar, they told Reuters correspondents in the world's key financial centres.

Pension funds, insurance companies and investment managers here and in centres like New York, Tokyo, Frankfurt, Zurich and Bahrain control investments running into billions of dollars.

Mr. Werner Rein, chief economist at Union Bank of Switzerland in Zurich, referring to recent drama on the exchanges, said: "One should avoid creating panic. There is no political problem in the United States and monetary policy will be maintained."

Most analysts round the globe saw the turnaround in the dollar's four-year rise as more likely to influence the allocation of new investments rather than lead to a change in existing holdings.

The dollar shakeout on the foreign exchanges over the past

two weeks as precipitated by a run on a small savings bank in the mid-western state of Ohio that shook confidence in the U.S. banking system. This knocked the dollar off 10-year highs against the mark and some other leading European currencies.

"But it is not falling off a cliff," Mr. Michael Snow, senior vice president of Union of Switzerland's office in New York.

The correction on the currency markets has imposed fresh reasons for caution among the money managers responsible for longer-term investment decisions.

Underlying confidence in the dollar would remain provided the Reagan administration kept inflation under control and the economy buoyant, analysts said.

Mr. Jay Dimberger, managing director of Julius Baer Investment Management in New York, said: "The desire to diversify has been restrained by the strength of the dollar, but now that it has shown signs of sustained weakness, the U.S. pension funds are going with their overseas expansion plans."

He estimated that large U.S. pension funds would commit be-

tween \$600 million and \$1 billion of new money to overseas investments over the next six months.

Most of this money was headed for fixed-income securities markets in Japan, West Germany and Britain, analysts said.

Both the West German and Japanese monetary authorities have been seeking recently to make investments denominated in their national currencies more attractive to international investors.

In Tokyo, Japanese investment managers said the previous steep rise in the dollar had depressed purchases of U.S. securities because of the foreign exchange risks involved.

Mr. Yoshihiko Miyabe, an assistant general manager of Yasuda Trust and Banking, said that Japanese investors might shift more funds into European securities, but the volume would be small and U.S. securities would still predominate.

In Bahrain, foreign exchange and investment managers said that the linkage of most Middle East Gulf currencies to the dollar would keep the region's investments biased in the U.S. currency's favour.

Mr. Henry Azzam, economist with the Bahrain-based United Gulf Bank, said it was too early to talk of large shifts of investment funds away from the dollar.

This would happen only when evidence hardened that the U.S. economy was slowing or inflation rising, he added.

U.S. Congress warns of trade retaliation against Japanese

WASHINGTON (R) — The

U.S. Congress has signalled to Japan and President Reagan that it may soon enact legislation to protect American industries if talks to ease access to Japanese markets are unsuccessful.

The Senate Finance Committee Tuesday passed a bill requiring Mr. Reagan to take action against Japanese imports through higher tariffs or quotas if he is unable to persuade Japan to open its doors to more U.S. goods within 90 days.

A few hours later, the House of Representatives voted 394 to 19 for a non-binding resolution urging Mr. Reagan to take similar action.

The full Senate had approved its own non-binding resolution urging last week on a vote of 92 to 0.

But unlike the resolutions, the Senate Finance Committee's bill will have the force of law if it clears Congress. The House Commerce Committee is to consider a similar bill Wednesday.

The congressional action reflects a growing concern with the record U.S. trade deficit of \$123 billion last year and anger at restrictive Japanese rules which keep American firms from exporting goods such as telecommunications equipment, pharmaceuticals, wood products and tobacco.

Last year, the United States recorded a \$37 billion trade deficit with Japan. Congressional analysts estimate U.S. exports

could increase by \$10 to \$12 billion a year if Japan's trade barriers were eased.

Meanwhile, a statement issued by the State and Commerce Departments Tuesday said progress had been made on opening Japanese markets to American telecommunications equipment and cautioned that protectionist actions could hurt the United States as much as the Japanese.

It expressed appreciation for the efforts of Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and said: "There is no single, simple solution to our trade problems. What is required is hard work, persistence and patience."

"We must remember that the solution to this problem is opening Japan's markets, not closing ours. We should remember that ill-considered action could hurt us just as much as the Japanese," the statement added.

It listed as progress agreements on telecommunications regulations and standards, two areas

U.S. firms have complained were used to block entry of their products.

Ignoring such assurances from the administration, House members warned that more restrictive legislation may be considered if Japan does not ease access for U.S. goods.

House speaker Mr. Thomas O'Neill said in a message to Japanese leaders through U.S. ambassador to Japan Mr. Mike Mansfield: "They had better make some concessions on trade or they are in trouble."

"What we are seeking is access to markets," Republican Senator John Chafee of Rhode Island said.

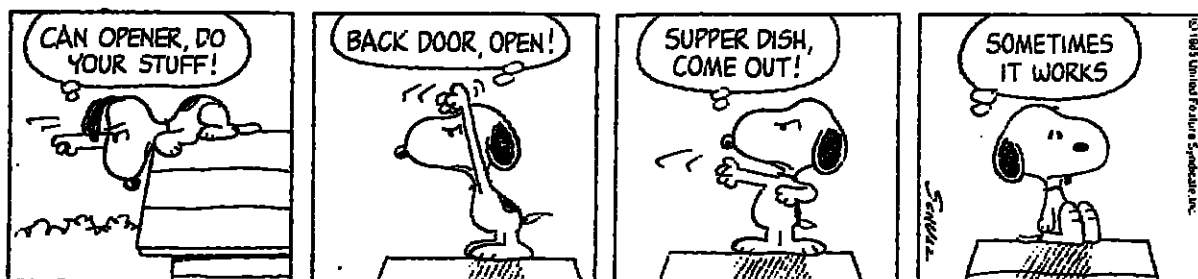
The Senate bill gives Mr. Reagan three months either to convince Japan to buy more U.S. goods or face trade barriers.

The administration came under fire in both chambers for being too soft in its talks with Japan and for shying away from threatening retaliation.

Alfa Romeo losses rise

MILAN (R) — Italian high-performance carmaker Alfa Romeo said Tuesday its losses more than tripled to almost \$50 million last year, despite an increase in sales. The company said net losses rose to 97.8 billion lire (\$49 million) last year from 26.5 billion lire (\$13 million) in 1983, reflecting increased investment in automated equipment. Sales rose 17 per cent in value to 3,100 billion lire (\$1.5 billion) with car sales increasing to 196,000 from 190,000 in 1983. Alfa Romeo, which is owned by the state-controlled industrial holding company IRI, invested 227 billion lire (114 million) in 1984 in developing its new range of saloons while cutting the labour force from 40,900 to 38,800.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Before I spend a fortune for a mechanic, I thought I'd try two aspirins in the gas tank!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Tell me more

RUPEN

ORND

MESTIK

LAFTUR

WHAT A FLATTERER SELDOM IS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: O O O O O O O O O O

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHICK TAFFY ARCTIC BRUTAL

Answer: What dermatology is the science of —

"ITCH CRAFT"

Soviets modernising nuclear, conventional forces, U.S. says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has said that the Soviet Union is continuing a rapid buildup and modernisation of its nuclear and conventional forces, but Moscow called the report "a piece of fiction".

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said the Soviet Union is protesting President Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars" initiative only because it has launched a massive, similar effort of its own and wants to preserve a monopoly in the area of high-tech warfare.

"What I'm trying to portray is what we know to be the facts," Mr. Weinberger said in releasing the Defence Department's fourth annual report on Soviet military power. "And that is that the Soviets are working, have been working for a long time — longer than we have — on defensive systems."

The Soviets are campaigning against the American effort to develop an anti-missile system that could be deployed in space "because they are doing it themselves and they want to be left alone to do it," he continued. "They're very clearly pointed toward acquiring the precise kind of capability that they not decide out argue is so terribly destabilising and dangerous. And from their point of view, it probably is, because it would mean it would break their monopoly," the secretary said.

In Moscow, the news agency TASS called the Pentagon report a "fantastic piece of fiction" and said the United States has no proof to back statements that the Soviets are researching space weapons.

"The bigger the lie and the more often it is repeated, the more people believe it," TASS said in a dispatch on the report. The dispatch said the Pentagon wants to justify U.S. military appropriations and the U.S. negotiating stance at the Geneva arms talks by creating a "mythical Soviet threat."

Mr. Weinberger also said he considered the shooting of a U.S. army officer in East Germany by a Soviet sentry a calculated act that amounted to an expression of Soviet policy. Mr. Weinberger's comments, which were beamed by satellite to

Europe and Japan, were offered in an hour-long briefing during which he recited numerous examples of what he called the Soviet's relentless drive to increase and modernise their weapons.

"They continue to press ahead with modernisation of all elements of their strategic and conventional forces," Mr. Weinberger said.

It is in the area of Star Wars research, however, that the 1984 report strikes new ground, focusing on Soviet efforts at a time when Mr. Reagan has asked Congress to provide \$3.7 billion for research in fiscal 1986 alone.

Space-based weaponry is one of the subjects of the U.S.-Soviet arms control talks that began last month in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Weinberger warned that the "greatest additions" to the Soviet Union's military fleets are being made in the Far East.

Mr. Weinberger said countries such as Japan and China should be concerned, since the most modern Soviet weapons have been sent to their region.

"The greatest additions to the Soviet air fleets and naval fleets are in their Far Eastern areas," said Mr. Weinberger, speaking Tuesday from Washington via satellite to the NHK network in

Tokyo in an interview broadcast Wednesday.

They are adding enormously to their naval and air strength in the whole region including the China Sea," he said, adding that the additions "consist of the most modern surface vessels, the most modern submarines... as well as the newest planes that they are developing."

Mr. Weinberger made his comments on the same day that Japanese Defence Agency officials reported that eight Soviet military ships were sighted off the Japanese coast, the largest Soviet fleet seen off Japan in five years.

Moving eastward, the Soviet fleet was reported in the Pacific 320 kilometres south-east of Okinawa and included a 34,000-ton Kiew class aircraft carrier, said an agency official.

The official said the fleet, whose destination was unknown, was sighted by a Japanese P-2J antisubmarine plane.

Mr. Weinberger, however, emphasised in the interview that the United States is "regaining first of all our strategic deterrence capability" by replacing old weapons such as the 26-year-old minuteman missile and adding new weapons.

Gandhi seeks better understanding with U.S.

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was quoted Wednesday as saying he wants to establish a personal rapport with U.S. President Ronald Reagan to clear misunderstandings between their countries.

"I think one of the most important things would be to get to know each other on a personal level so that misconceptions can be removed," Mr. Gandhi told the Hindustan Times, New Delhi's largest daily, in an interview.

The United States and India have divergent security concerns and perceptions of global problems. The Indian External Affairs Ministry said in a report this week that U.S.-Indian relations remain "under a cloud" because of supply of sophisticated American arms to Pakistan, which Washington regards as a bulwark against Soviet expansion.

Mr. Gandhi said he was eager to step up trade relations and "really introduce India to the United States because there was tremendous upsurge of feeling for India after Indira's (late prime minister Indira Gandhi's) visit in 1982."

"But we have not been able to follow that up as we should have and the Festival of India in the USA, is one of the steps that we have taken. It will really introduce India to the United States which has never been done before," he added.

Mr. Gandhi, chairman of the 101-nation Non-Aligned Movement, is scheduled to pay an official visit in June to the United States where he will inaugurate the Festival of India.

Mr. Gandhi said India and the United States should also improve their trade relations. Meanwhile, the Indian government has extended for four months a ban on the entry of foreigners into Punjab state, an official spokesman said Wednesday.

Punjab is the home of India's 14 million Sikhs, many of whom are demanding greater autonomy. The state has been under army control since the ban was imposed last June on the eve of the army assault in the city of Amritsar on Sikh extremists holed up in the Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine.

The order bars foreigners, including journalists, from travelling to the troubled state without special permits. The government announced last month that businessmen and foreigners married to Indians could apply for special travel permits if they gave valid reasons for wishing to go to Punjab, India's breadbasket state.

Thousands of Sikhs have been imprisoned in the state since the temple raid. The government, which recently freed eight jailed Sikh leaders, said this week it was considering releasing more than 800 people imprisoned under a controversial Preventive Detention Law.

However, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has said he will deal sternly with Sikh terrorists.

Two South Korean opposition parties unite

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The two largest opposition parties joined forces Wednesday under the banner of the new and outspoken New Korea Democratic Party to form a unified front against President Chun Doo-hwan.

The New Korea Democratic Party, backed by dissident leaders Kim Dae-jung and Kim Young-sam, won 68 of 276 seats in the National Assembly in Feb. 12 elections. That made it the second-strongest party behind Mr. Chun's Democratic Justice Party (DJP), which won 148 seats.

The New Korea Democratic Party, hastily formed weeks before the election, gained three more seats soon after the election, when three legislators from smaller parties decided to join.

It was unclear how many Democratic Korea Party members would go along with their party's decision to merge. By noon Wednesday, 21 members had joined the New Korea Democratic Party, increasing its assembly strength to 92 seats, exactly one-third of the total. If the remaining 14 members join, the unified party will have 106 seats.

The two Kims were considered major presidential contenders after President Park Chung-hee was assassinated in October 1979, ending his one-man rule that began with a military coup in 1961.

Soviets plan 'aggressive' space probe

SPACE CENTRE, Houston (AP) — The Soviet Union is planning an aggressive programme of unmanned planetary exploration in the next few years, including lofting balloons into the atmosphere of Venus and intercepting Halley's Comet, a U.S. space agency expert has said.

Mike Duke, a lunar and planetary scientist at the Johnson Space Centre, said the Soviets are devoting a great deal of attention and effort to exploring the solar system's inner planets with unmanned probes.

"The Soviet programme seems

to take more of their national attention than it does in this country," said Duke.

He said he talked with a group of Soviet scientists who attended a conference on lunar and planetary studies at the Johnson Space Centre last month.

Among the projects planned by the Soviets, said Duke, are a 1988 mission to Phobos, a moon orbiting Mars, a mission to orbit the moon over its poles, and a 1986 two-stage craft that would explore both the planet Venus and Halley's Comet, which swirls around

the sun every 76 years.

Duke said the Phobos mission would put a spacecraft within a few hundred metres of the surface of the Martian moon, which has a low gravity field.

The craft would fire laser beams at the moon's surface and an instrument would analyse the reflected light to determine the object's composition.

A Soviet craft in polar orbit around Earth's moon could map and gather composition data in areas not studied during the U.S. Apollo programme, Duke said.

Moscow silent on summit possibilities

MOSCOW (R) — Officials Wednesday refused to comment on President Reagan's statement that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had replied to his invitation to a summit.

Mr. Reagan said in an interview with the Washington Post Tuesday that Mr. Gorbachev had replied but declined to say what the response was. Unidentified administration officials were quoted by the newspaper as saying Mr. Gorbachev had reacted positively to the idea of a summit.

The official Soviet media have made no reference to Mr. Reagan's invitation.

The long-standing Kremlin position has been that a summit would be welcome if it were well-prepared and could promise something concrete.

This was also Washington's line until Mr. Gorbachev succeeded late President Konstantin Chernenko last month. The administration has since indicated Mr. Reagan would be prepared for a meeting to get to know the new Soviet leader.

S. African police fire kills black woman

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A black woman apparently injured when riot police fired shotguns to disperse a black crowd erecting roadblocks in the troubled eastern Cape died before an ambulance could reach her, police said Wednesday.

Her death Tuesday night near Motherwell township brought to at least 40 the number killed in eastern Cape rioting in the past two weeks, including 19 shot by police in a single incident.

Police said crowds of blacks threw stones at police patrols and

private cars and set fire to houses and schools in overnight unrest.

A policeman whose patrol was responsible for the 19 deaths on March 21 at Uitenhage Tuesday told an inquiry that he feared mutilation by the 4,000-strong crowd.

Sergeant Gerhard Stumke said: "I had been working in unrest situations for two months and I knew what would happen if these people got you. They mutilate you."

Residents of Langa on the riot-torn eastern Cape say they were

Marching peacefully to a funeral on March 21 when police opened fire without warning.

Sgt. Stumke was giving evidence Tuesday at an inquiry into the shooting after his officers, Lieutenant John Fouche and Warrant Officer Wouter Pentz, had contradicted a government statement that their patrol opened fire only after being pelted by stones and petrol bombs.

Asked why no policeman had been hurt in what had been described as a frenzied mob attack, Sgt. Stumke said: "The lord protected and safeguarded us. I have no other explanation."

Italian magistrate says he received death threats

TRAPANI, Sicily (R) — Magistrate Carlo Palermo, who narrowly escaped being blown up by a mafia car bomb which killed a young mother and two children, knew his life was under threat from the Sicilian underworld.

"I knew what I was taking on," the 38-year-old official told a television reporter from his hospital bed. "I cannot go into details, but yes, there was something of a threat."

Tuesday's bombing on the outskirts of Trapani was thought to be the work of Sicilian mafiosi who feel threatened by a series of judicial investigations, judicial sources said.

Legal sources said they viewed it as a symbolic attack designed to warn Italy's prosecuting authorities.

The stolen car packed with up to 200 kilograms of dynamite and detonated by remote control as Mr. Palermo's armoured car approached, was a replica of an attack on magistrate Rocco Chinnici two years ago.

The sources said if Mr. Palermo

had been the sole target, hired killers could have picked him off almost any time since he was transferred to Sicily last year at his own request from Trento, northern Italy.

Mr. Chinnici and two members of his police escort were killed in a July 1983 car bomb blast outside his Palermo home.

Magistrate Palermo, whose name was on arrest and search warrants issued against a number of local figures last month, would have been killed Tuesday had another car not passed at the time.

Housewife Barbara Asta, 30, driving her twin sons Giuseppe and Salvatore to school, caught the full force of the blast, police said.

Mr. Palermo, who last year issued a judicial report linking the mafia with an international arms-for-drugs racket, is being treated in hospital for slight face and leg wounds. Five other people were wounded in the explosion, including two members of the escort who underwent emergency surgery in a Palermo hospital.

Space shuttle accident caused by design defect

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — A work platform fell and damaged the space shuttle Discovery last month because a cable linkage on an overhead crane system broke due to a design defect, reliable sources said.

A notice that warned of defective operation had been posted on the crane system, but it was small and may have fallen off, said the sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified.

A board of investigation found that the overhead crane system that moves the shuttle work platform had a design fault that allowed one cable's tension to differ from the other, the sources said. The difference, they said, caused a linkage in one cable to gradually weaken and then break, dropping the 1.13 kilogramme metal platform onto the shuttle.

Brazilian leader recovers from fourth operation

SAO PAULO (R) — Brazil's 75-year-old president-elect Tancredino Neves was recovering Wednesday in an intensive care unit after his fourth operation in 17 days, presidential spokesman Antonio Brito said.

The hernia surgery Tuesday followed a series of medical bulletins saying he was well on the road to recovery after three intestinal operations.

The first, to remove a section of inflamed intestine, prevented his scheduled inauguration on March 15.

Mr. Brito stressed that the hernia operation was not related to complications from the previous surgery. The operation for a 30-year-old hernia complaint was conducted under a spinal anaesthetic and Mr. Neves was conscious throughout, following each stage of surgery, and repeatedly asking his doctors if they were nearly finished, Mr. Brito said.

After the 90-minute operation he talked with his family in the intensive care unit, Mr. Brito added.

Mr. Brito said tests on infection around the site of previous surgery,

had isolated the cause and antibiotics were being prescribed to treat it.

"These things should contribute to the speed of the president's recovery," he said.

As reports of Mr. Neves' fresh crisis spread, crowds gathered around the heart hospital here anxious for news of the popular politician.

A huge yellow banner was strung across a building near the hospital addressed to Mr. Neves' wife: "Dona Risoletta, you are not alone, we are 130 million Brazilians praying together."

In Brasilia, the leader of Mr. Neves' Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB), Ulysses Guimarães, said he was surprised by the operation Tuesday because Mr. Neves' doctor had told him only hours earlier that despite a slight temperature everything was under control.

Interim President Jose Sarney was told of the new setback on a special telephone link between the hospital and the presidency in Brasilia. Mr. Sarney maintained his schedule and parliament continued without break.

COLUMNS 7&8

84-year-old Iraqi has 101 sons

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Hassan Abed Al Sadch is an 84-year-old Iraqi, who has 101 sons, grandsons, and great-grandsons. He married seven times, the first in 1925 and the last in 1956. He says he had a separate house with a separate piece of land for each wife. His eldest son is 58 years old and the youngest is only two years. He has 16 of his offspring in the battlefield and says he would not mind marrying for the eighth time, because he feels he is "in a very good health".

Bachelors set their hearts on Polish wives

BONN (R) — Lonely West German bachelors in search of a wife have had their hopes raised by a report that 3,000 Polish women are waiting to make their dream come true. The report, on the front page of the mass-circulation newspaper Bild, said the Poles were on the books of Polonia, a matchmaking agency in Nuremberg. The newspaper has been deluged with telephone calls over the report, a spokesman at Bild's Nuremberg office said Wednesday. Elise Soeder, who runs Polonia, said 5,000 Polish women were looking for Western husbands through her agency and confirmed that about 3,000 had set their hopes on a West German. "They're 18 to 60, single, widowed or divorced and all looking for a groom," Polish-born Soeder, 61, told Reuters. She said the women wanted to marry in the West for romantic and material reasons and that the favourite destinations were West Germany, Britain and the United States.

Rude ticket collectors abuse wrong man

PEKING (R) — Two bad-mannered Chinese ticket collectors have become exceptionally polite since discovering that a ferry passenger they abused was their city mayor, the China Daily said Wednesday. The insolent ticket men hurled abuse at Wuhan Mayor Wu Guanzheng — travelling incognito to gain first-hand experience of his citizen's problems — when he tried to help a passenger they were insulting. "It was routine for me to abuse passengers," one collector admitted to the paper, which added that both now serve passengers with a smile.

16,000 evacuated to defuse old bomb

LATISANA, Italy (AP) — Authorities have evacuated 16,000 residents of two towns in north eastern Italy for several hours as experts defused a 10-ton, U.S.-made bomb from World War II. Police said the bomb apparently had been dropped by a B-17 plane during a raid on the Tagliamento River. It was discovered recently in a muddy area along the river during reclamation works. The residents of Latisana and the nearby village of San Michele Al Tagliamento were evacuated for nearly four hours, authorities said.

Princess smokes despite warnings

LONDON (R) — Princess Margaret, younger sister of Britain's Queen Elizabeth, ignored medical warnings and publicly lit a cigarette for the first time since she had a lung operation three months ago. The princess, 54, who was found not to have cancer when a piece of her left lung was removed in exploratory surgery in January, was however advised her to give up her 60-cigarettes-a-day habit. She puffed at a silver cigarette holder during a television awards ceremony in London, her first public appearance since returning from convalescence on the Caribbean island of Mustique.

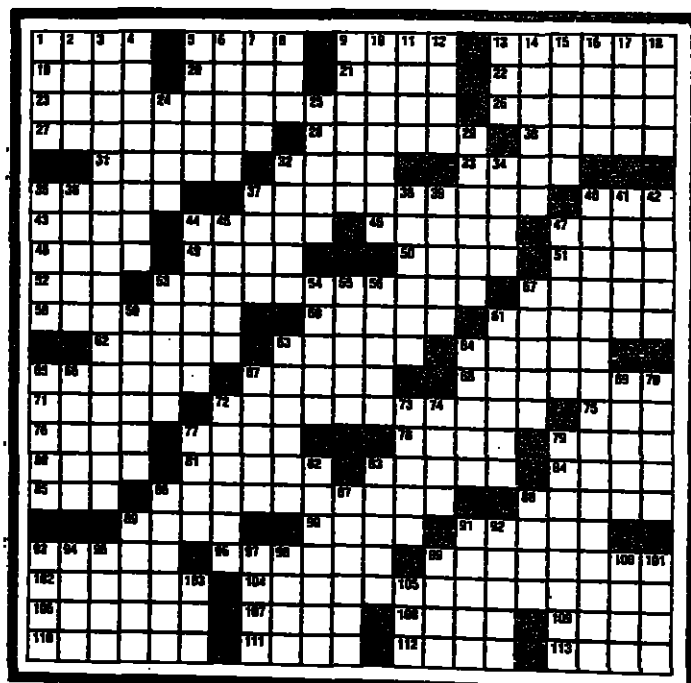
THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkin

MONOCHROMATIC

By Lee C. Jones

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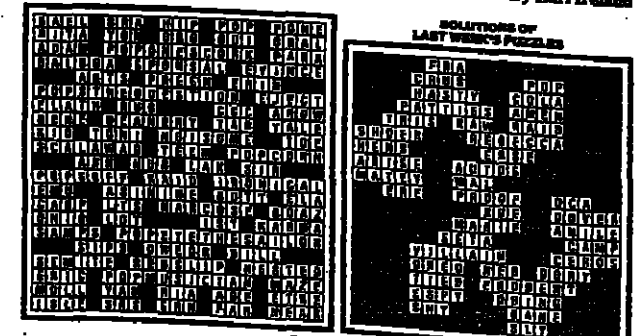


Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Clever boys have faces, cute girls have curves, but most everyone has same angle.
2. An ordinary echo that suddenly answers back undoubtedly is not anyone you'd want to know.
3. Staff photographer developing prints served beautifully by negative.
4. Mary has two little lambs. Will they be ewes or rams?

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. A Q U V E R S H O N A X F U M I F I S "BIG ADVERTIS."
2. W E R O U B N I F F A N G A F F M I A R Q U O N X D U F F I E
3. A B C R U B A N W, V E R E I E A B C R U P A N, U B S
4. D R E I A T I E V E A O I S.
5. U L E A L K Z J E R B N: Z F L O E J R N S U R Z L I K N Z
6. F L O R I D A N E K F W O L K Z E G F N L K L E L I
7. Z W L E, N K B R E N G F R E Q N Z K B L Q N B L K N D W.
8. S U R O L E L A C K Y L Y T E R S T Y L E S T O Y E S O L E
9. S T U B L O A K Y T L A K Y T.
10. A V J D E V A G D O H N J M E D U L D U R W E S U L M S
11. Z M W A U H U Z G V E D E U R O D D.



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 954 ♥ K1063 ♦ QJ8 ♣ 752
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 ♦ Pass ?
What action do you take?
Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ Q1063 ♥ AK85 ♦ AQ93 ♣ 7
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?
Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ AQ872 ♥ KQ6 ♦ KJ ♣ A72
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

Q.4—Both, vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J7642 ♥ AQ6 ♦ 5 ♣ K763
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?
Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ KJ3 ♥ K8975 ♦ A6532 ♣ 10
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?
Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ KQJ53 ♥ K82 ♦ 93 ♣ A105
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?